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Gossip Shapes Perception

Sippican Historical Society

By Marilou Newell

Since the dawn of humankind's ability to speak and form intellectual thoughts into spoken words, people have gossiped. The French call it *les potin*, *les commérages*, or *les ragots*. Such exchanges of inflamed information, over the backyard fence tittle-tattle has in more recent times been exploited beyond our ability to comprehend – consider modern news outlets. But the result, whether in ancient times or modern sound bites, is the same: Gossip shapes perception.

This notion became quite clear when author and Professor Robert Darnton presented his book "Revolutionary Temper" during an engagement hosted by the Sippican Historical Society on December 6. Darnton is a highly respected authority on 18th century France, educated at the University of Oxford, and has been nominated for *Prix Medicis essai*, the National Book Critics Circle Award for Criticism, National Book Award for History, and was the director of the library at Harvard University for a decade.

The depth of knowledge he imparted on this evening cannot be boiled down into a few simple sentences. Suffice to say Darnton was an informative and entertaining lecturer. A *beau* speaker.

During his hour-long talk, Darnton plumbed not only French history, focusing on the years that the Kings Louie (yes, there were



On the Cover: Three-year-old Lexie of Marion welcomes a Clydesdale with a friendly pat on the nose, as the horses get set to take Santa and friends on a carriage ride from Island Wharf through village streets during Sunday's Marion Village Christmas Stroll. The annual event went on despite the threat of rain, which eventually fell near sunset, scattering the crowds that had swarmed the village. Photo by Mick Colageo

several) reigned but the everyday comings and goings of the people, the common folk whose habits of daily living were oftentimes impacted by gossip.

Darnton described places where people would gather to exchange "news," noting that the printed word was not allowed and, if at all possible to create, might bring the wrath of the king down on one's neck, literally. He said that a Tree of Krakow in Paris was a popular location for such exchanges.

News mongers would listen to what was being discussed, then verbally spread the word. Ambassadors from other countries would send spies to these known locations, collecting that latest information being bantered about the people. Thus, these nerve centers were used not only to collect news but to pass along information as well. Long before the internet spread information, correct or otherwise, there were gossips.

Darnton shared that much of what was being repeated in the dusty lanes of the gathering spots was being written down by scribes into registers. He said today such registers are archived, providing some not-so-

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first-hand transcripts of what people were thinking about and sharing. These documents had to be printed outside of France. Today there remain some 36 volumes that span a 25-year period.

And it wasn't just the spoken word that moved among the masses. Events either perceived or real were used as lyrics put to tunes familiar to the populous. One such ditty told the story of kidnapped children.

The King and Queen plus mistresses were always a popular topic. Just like today. One story Darnton noted said that King Louie 15th was suffering from venereal disease, therefore he could not take Holy Communion, rendering him an inferior ruler due to "being steeped in sin."

With each war, conflict or regal misdeed Darnton spoke of, there was this line being drawn, how we mortals still cling to gossip, passing it along, but we call it fake news. The power of the media, either by spoken word under a tree or modern news outlet, or text, email, Facebook, X (Twitter) and the like, can and does shape perception.

King Louie and Marie might have had a better chance of living to ripe old ages if they could have protected their images against the gossip being spread about them in today's nano-second, microchip society, but then again, maybe not.

Yoga Group Prepares for African Mission By Jeffrey D. Wagner

Yoga is all about mindfulness and self-improvement.

But to a group of area residents – many connected to the yoga-based studio in Mattapoisett – they will take that mindfulness and balance and look to bring it to Botswana, Kenya, according to Mattapoisett resident Kerin McKinnon, who will lead a group of 18 people and travel March 1-11 to help with an orphanage in Botswana, Kenya.

Some of the participants will travel from as far as Georgia and Texas, but many attending will be from the south coast. They will work on construction projects, childcare, afterschool programs and orphanage care,

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according to McKinnon.

The orphanage houses 42 children, ages infancy to Grade 3.

"All with disabilities, mostly who have been abandoned by their families," says McKinnon, who adds that some have HIV, physical and mental disabilities. "It's a collective group that is going on the trip. I met them through the yoga community. It's exciting."

McKinnon said her aunt and uncle were missionaries who traveled to Tanzania. In 2012, McKinnon was inspired and began volunteering in Haiti.

"It is so dangerous that short-term missions are not going there. I decided I wanted to organize a trip – Haiti wasn't an option," she said. "We just want to do whatever they require us to do, working with the children, but we want to serve where there is a need. Most of us are active volunteers in our hometown and home state, but it is more critical in a place like Africa and not here."

Along with McKinnon, other volunteers will include: Patty Maccini, a Mattapoisett resident; Michael

THE PLUMBERS

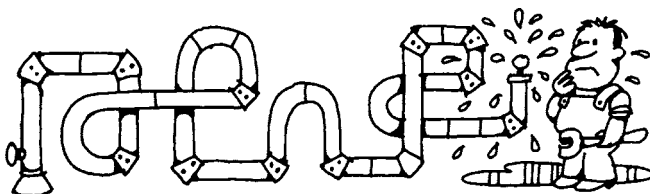
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Coffey, a former New Bedford firefighter and Mattapoisett resident; and Marcia Hathaway, the studio yoga teacher and Dartmouth resident.

Other local participants include Janet Rose, Barbara Lamy, Tabitha Tripp, a Marion resident with a practice in Mattapoisett and Julie Boren.

McKinnon said the group will also have some fun; the area is home to 80,000 elephants and the group will likely do sight-seeing.

The group is also collecting used laptop computers.

For more information or to donate, visit lovebotswana.org.

Understanding Black Bears

Marion Natural History Museum

By Marilou Newell

The Marion Natural History Museum hosted a community program on December 8 on the topic of the American Black Bear. Speakers Jason Zimmer and Stephen Wright from the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife discussed bear populations across the commonwealth, lifecycles, denning and food sources. They also discussed the importance of minimizing the opportunities for conflict between us and this magnificent, apex predator.

The black bear is the only bear that populates Massachusetts with males weighing in approximately 450 pounds and females 140-170 pounds. Zimmer said that bears larger than average are bears that have found other food sources such as bird feeders regularly replenished. The average life span for these small(ish) bears is around 25 years.

The bears are heavily distributed throughout the northern region of North America into the Canadian Rockies. Zimmer said during colonization of North America these bears were almost hunted to extinction. With hunting regulations in place for decades, black bears have recovered. Data actively collected since 1972 demonstrates the slow growth in bear populations, including southeastern Massachusetts. Currently registered hunters may harvest one bear per season.

An interesting point was made when Wright said that black bears have traditionally populated the western part of the state. He said that there are far fewer bear sightings called into authorities in the Berkshire area than in the southeast region.

"People are accustomed to seeing the bears out there than around here," he said.

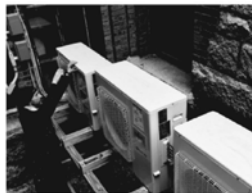
Most local sightings are called into police departments, versus game wardens or animal-control services, and, as happened recently, a single male bear scouting our territory in and around Cape Cod was likely to have been the same bear being seen numerous times. The agency estimates 4,500 bears live primarily in Worcester County and west.

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Making a sustainable living means finding food. Black bears are omnivores, eating both vegetation and meat. In the spring, they can be found in swampy areas, eating early leafy greens such as skunk cabbage, one of their favorite foods. Farmers beware: Bears love corn.

Zimmer said that a single bear can wipe out a field of corn, leaving behind crushed stalks resembling crop circles.

Mating occurs between mid-June and mid-July, depending on the availability of food. Babies are born in January. The female will neither eat nor drink during the denning season. And as for those dens, they can be hollowed-out, fallen



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logs, borrowed burrows, jumbles of rocks or a simple tree stump. These bears will even curl up beside a berm of fallen leaves with snow covering their thick coats.

The point was made that bears aren't really sleeping during hibernation. It is a process of slowing down the metabolic systems during seasons with little food availability. The unspoken rule – don't poke the bear – it's really awake.

Zimmer cautioned the attendees to secure trash barrels against bears seeking food scraps including but not limited to placing barrels inside garages or outbuildings. Other precautions to help avoid bear to human conflicts are feeding pets indoors, keeping barbecue grills clean and free of grease and using electric fences to protect beehives and chicken coops. To learn more, visit mass.gov/info-details/learn-about-black-bears.

Celebrity Vacation Cruises

Thoughts on...

By Dick Morgado

If you are in need of ideas for a last-minute Christmas gift for your loved one, do I have the gift for you. How about a cruise? I'm no expert when it comes to cruises ... I've only cruised around our fine harbor once or twice ... but four days on the ocean blue in one of those six-story floating hotels would be perfect. Don't you agree?

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2024 Taylor Swift Cruise. Marvelous Mouse Travel Agency (it's real and it is not even affiliated with Disney), in association with Royal Caribbean International, has put together the perfect package where you can plan your entire vacation around the pop star's Eras Tour.

According to the agency's website, you can "Join us as we celebrate all things Taylor, make new friends, dress up in our favorite era's duds, trade friendship bracelets and enjoy everything this amazing ship has to offer." Plus, you will also visit Royal Caribbean's private island. Now you're talking!

Did I mention dear Taylor will not perform, nor will she be on board or is even affiliated with the cruise? A small detail.

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I suspect she will be raking in a few bucks dropped on the voyage by her “Swifties” fans, for the use of her name and image. Still for a starting rate of \$1,573, including coffee and tea ... what a deal.

If you choose not to partake in this amazing experience or miss the opportunity as a Christmas gift, fear not, it doesn’t sail until next October. I bet you can catch another pop star’s adventure cruise, which I expect will be sure to follow soon enough.

No doubt Beyoncé will soon be getting on board with a cruise of her own, and Lady Gaga, a shrewd entertainment megastar, will see the opportunity to bring her “Little Monsters” together on the ocean blue for a small profit. They are getting older and don’t need chaperones anymore.

I might even consider signing up for a Bruce Springsteen or a Rolling Stones harbor cruise myself if it has a stop here in Mattapoissett.

Apparently, this popstar, sea-cruise thing is not new. Flower Power Cruises will have a floating party for “Groovy ‘60s music fans” on the *Celebrity Summit* sailing in March. It features The Rascals and Tommy James and the Shondells, who all must be older than I am.

Disney had a “Halloween on the High Seas” Cruise. Sorry I didn’t let you know sooner.

There is a cruise for everybody. An ‘80s music cruise on the *Mariner of the Seas* sails in February ... a nice winter respite from the cold and snow. It is billed as a “totally tubular” sailing event. Confirmed acts include Air Supply, Soft Cell and Debbie Gibson! Don’t miss that one. Also in February, the “Rock Legends” Cruise sails on the *Independence of the Seas* featuring The Circle, Billy Gibbons, Collective Soul, Geoff Tate and the current incarnation of Jefferson Starship. Legends?

There is a “Star Trek” cruise, presumably exploring the ocean, not where no man has gone before. That adventure is left to a “Sci-Fi” cruise, a Doctor Who (the British TV franchise) themed sail on the *Wonder of the Seas*. It features several cast members who apparently are all retired collecting residuals. I wonder if they’ll check out the Bermuda Triangle.

I must say, I just discovered these amazing

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vacation choices. I guess I missed the boat.

Editor's note: Mattapoisett resident Dick Morgado is an artist and retired newspaper columnist whose musings are, after some years, back in The Wanderer under the subtitle "Thoughts on" Morgado's opinions have also appeared for many years in daily newspapers around Boston.

A Gift Anyone Can Give

What Does The Doctor Say?

By Dr. Ed Hoffer

The holidays, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or just "the holiday season," are for most of us a time for family get-togethers, singalongs, gifts and joy. For people living alone or struggling with depression, the expectation that they should be happy simply adds to their pain. This season is thus for some a time of increased risk of suicide.

Last year, the U.S. experienced a new high in "deaths of despair," including suicides. In 2022, almost 50,000 people lost their lives to suicide. While all age groups are affected, the highest suicide rate was in men 75 and older. Also striking is that over half of these deaths were carried out by guns.

How can we reduce these horrible events?

If you are contemplating suicide, please reach out. No matter how it may seem, you are not alone. In Massachusetts, you can call 833-773-2445. Most states have a chapter of The Samaritans. From anywhere in the U.S., you can call 988. All of these services are anonymous, free and available 24/7.

If you have guns at home, be a responsible gun owner – keep them locked up.

If you are worried about a friend or loved one, reach out. Talking about suicide does *not* "put the idea in their head." Talking, and more important, listening, is incredibly helpful. Initiating the conversation is not easy. Make sure they feel safe in being open. Start with something like "You have seemed very down recently. I am worried about you. Would you like to talk?" When it seems appropriate, it is okay to ask "are you considering suicide?"

If they are open to discussing their feelings, be

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prepared to listen deeply: Maintain eye contact, reflect back their words and acknowledge their feelings. Don't interrupt and/or try to talk them out of their feelings. While you may feel things are not that bad, they do.

Suggest they get professional help or call one of the hotlines. If they are not ready to do this, tell them you will be available to talk more. Ask them to promise you they will not act on their impulses without more talking.

If they do not want to talk, tell them you will be available when they are. Share your concerns with others in their support network; there may be someone else with whom they feel more comfortable.

Finally, if you feel the risk is very high and they refuse to seek help, reach out to emergency services on their behalf.

Dr. Ed Hoffer is the chairman of the Marion Board of Health, a graduate of MIT and Harvard Medical School. He is Associate Professor of Medicine, part-time, at Harvard and a Senior Scientist at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

Elderly Hiker Rescued

According to a press release issued by Mattapoisett Police, on December 7, the department received a 911 call from an 81-year-old man who stated that he had been hunting in the area of Haskell Swamp and had become lost and could not find his way out. Mattapoisett dispatch remained on the line with the caller as police units were dispatched and responded to the area.

Officers located the party's vehicle on I-195 West. Mattapoisett Police Lieutenant Justin King and Officer Brett Osetkowski set off on foot from this location in an attempt to locate the party; 911 call data was received at the Mattapoisett Police Department and also by officers on scene via LIVE911.

Officers were able to determine an approximate location of the calling party. Officers on scene were also able to hear the caller live through the LIVE911 in their cruisers. Officer Felix Perez launched a Mattapoisett Police Drone.

The temperature was 28 degrees and dropping,

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and darkness was quickly setting in. The Massachusetts State Police airwing was notified and responded to the area; MSP airwing quickly located the elderly male and guided officers through the darkness and thick brush towards him.

Lieutenant King and Officer Osetkowski located the party at 17:00 hours (5:00 pm.) Officers determined the party could not walk out of the wooded area without assistance.

Marion Fire/EMS was notified and responded into the wooded area with their Fire/EMS utility task vehicle (UTV.) The State Police airwing guided the Marion Fire/EMS UTV towards the officers and the elderly male party.

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The party was loaded onto the UTV and transported to I-195, where the Mattapoisett Police EMS was waiting. The man was evaluated by Mattapoisett Police EMS and released at 18:36 hours (6:36 pm.) All units cleared the scene.

The successful search was a coordinated effort by the Mattapoisett Police, Massachusetts State Police, Rochester Police, Marion Police and Marion Fire/EMS.

Special Town Meeting Set for January 22

Rochester Select Board

By Michael J. DeCicco

Rochester's Select Board has set a Special

Town Meeting for January 22, 2024, for what Town Administrator Glenn Cannon called "a few cleanup items, including town financials."

During Monday night's public meeting held at the Senior Center, Cannon elaborated after the Select Board's approval of the Special Town Meeting date that 11 articles are currently on the warrant. He said these articles will include a necessary move to increase the budget for police overtime and a zoning article related to adding a parcel to the town's Cranberry Highway Growth Overlay District.

Most noteworthy, however, is the project not expected to be on the meeting warrant. Cannon said that none of the articles will involve the high-profile, public-safety facilities renovation and construction plan that the town has been formulating for the past year.

"We are not yet ready to move it forward," he said.

That plan's current focus is creating two separate buildings to address those departments' inadequate space needs. The plan calls for the current police station to be renovated with a small addition and a new fire station to replace the existing facility adjacent to Rochester Memorial School.

The Select Board opened the warrant for the Special Town Meeting on December 11 and will close the warrant on December 20.

The board began the meeting by approving a request from Zoning of Appeals Chairman David Arancio that he be appointed chair of the new Zoning By-Law Review Committee only temporarily. He asked the board to dub him temporary chairman so the new board can elect officers at its first meeting. He explained he was too "tapped out" with other commitments to take the reins full-time.

Next, the board approved a request from Town Planner Nancy Durfee to use town property to install monitoring wells at Snipatuit Pond for a hydrological study of the pond's water flow.

The goal, Durfee said, is "to get a better understanding of the complex's aquifer." A flow gauge will be installed with ARPA funds totaling \$20,000, and it will be the town's responsibility to monitor that gauge, she said.

The project's technical consultants chose two possible sites for the gauge, both town-owned, she noted. They are the town forest across from the Northern Avenue cemetery and at the Old Colony Regional Vocational-Technical High School.

Conservation Commission chair Christopher Gerrior asked bluntly for a deeper reason why these two spots were chosen. Were they the best places for the wells or the best town-owned places?

Southeastern (Massachusetts) Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) consultant Helen Zincavage said these spots best mirrored the characteristics of the pond that the study needs for the

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review. Durfee admitted that being town-owned made access to the land less complicated.

After the board endorsed allowing access to the 0 Northern Avenue site, Durfee thanked Rochester Water Commissioner Fred Underhill for his help educating her on the pond's problems and needs. "I thank Fred for taking me under his wing," she said.

In other action, the board approved an amendment to the Red Barn Farm Conservation Restriction, adding 12.44 acres to the existing 60 acres at Rounseville and Vaughn Hill Roads.

The board also endorsed the Planning Board's referral that another town parcel be added to the town's Cranberry Highway Growth Overlay District. Cannon said later that this is the amendment that will need Special Town Meeting approval.

The Rochester Select Board is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, December 20, to approve the warrant for the January 22, 2024, Special Town Meeting.

Grant Key to Creek Road Station Future

Marion Capital Improvements Planning Committee

By Mick Colageo

The members of the Marion Capital Improvements Planning Committee are like Santa's elves, listening intently and seeking clarification to a long list of requests being made by the town's department heads as they map out capital needs for the next fiscal year.

There are critical hurdles to getting this bulging sack of information onto Santa's sleigh, and many items on the wish lists won't find their way into a stocking hanging by a fireplace, much less wrapped and placed under a tree.

Through a series of public meetings that began in April, the committee has been interacting with department heads and educating them on the process by which the committee hears, absorbs, entertains, questions and scrutinizes capital requests.

Since October 11, those leaders have been making their pitches. The final requests for FY25 were delivered on Monday night by the Water Pollution Control Facility Manager Nathaniel Munafo as a second presentation involving the Department of Public Works to cap the CIPC's interview season.

Munafo made separate Water Department and Sewer Department presentations, supported by DPW Director Becky Tilden and engineer Meghan Davis.

His top-priority, sewer-related item: the \$3,213,000 Creek Road Pumping Station. The request is for \$308,500 for Marion's 10% match of a 90% FEMA HMGP Grant, the application for which was filed a year ago.

Munafo told the CIPC that roughly half the town's sewer users rely on the Creek Road station, which has been identified as a station in need of repair and one especially vulnerable to potential flood events.

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grant, but Munafo reported that NEMA asked Marion to apply for a Hazard Mitigation Plan grant and increased the deal to a 90/10 match.

"NEMA is very supportive of our program," said Munafo, noting that the town is slowly working through the process and that the grant has not been officially awarded. He said that if the town receives the grant, it has the matching funds set aside.

Munafo began his presentation with water projects, requesting as his top priority \$1,200,000 from enterprise funds for purchase and installation of an emergency backup generator for the Wolf Island Road Well and East Well and the replacement of a generator for the Perry Hill and Main Pump stations.

While the grant would be received on July 1, the project has to go out to bid so final costs are a moving target.

"They (DPW) are constantly looking into a crystal ball to give you the best number they can," said Town Administrator Geoff Gorman, who was in attendance Monday night.

Due to the nature of the projects, some water/sewer requests are asking for substantially more money in FY26 or FY27 than they are for FY25.

There is no doubt as to the top priority a year from now. Listed for FY26 is the \$2,700,000 water-main replacement along Route 6 that will presumably service two planned residential developments near the Wareham town line.

Matt Zuker, whose The Cottages (48-unit, townhouse-style, market-rate development) project is before the Planning Board, is believed to have agreed to fund 40% of the \$2,700,000 total.

On December 6, the DPW made a separate pitch, most notably for a \$1,787,000 project that would repave, enhance (lighting) and otherwise improve the driveway and parking lot to the Cushing Community Center.

In order to qualify for the purposes of the committee's consideration, a capital project costs at least \$10,000 and has a useful life of at least five years.

Also presented by departments is a 10-year outlook on capital needs, some of which are recurring



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or based on expiring equipment. On Monday, Munafo readily admitted his annual request for \$50,000 related to sludge removal from the wastewater lagoon might rather belong in his operations budget.

Questionable requests are somewhat common, given each department's own set of complexities and internal challenges to define a project as purely operational or as capital.

Beyond its primary task, it is through the process of the ensuing dialogue that the CIPC acts as a sounding board for each department's financial and planning considerations.

The committee, comprised of Chairman Dave Janik, Secretary Stephen Nojeim and members Casey Barros, Mandy Givens and Debra Watson, will henceforth analyze all town departments' and by Tuesday (December 19), will have sent Nojeim their own comprehensive rankings of Marion's capital projects.

Any factor, including funding source or timing, could be taken into consideration in arriving at a top-10 list of priorities.

If Janik and Nojeim determine on December 27 that there is consensus, the CIPC's work will be considered finished upon its February 20, 2024, appearance before a joint meeting of the Finance Committee and Select Board for questions and answers. If not, Janik will schedule a CIPC "reconciliation" meeting

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for December 28.

The CIPC article that will appear on the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting in May will contain the committee's top-10 capital requests, footnoting the recommendation (or not) of the Finance Committee and Select Board. Those bodies are regularly represented to the CIPC, the Finance Committee by Fred Mock and the Select Board by Randy Parker.

The next meeting of the Marion Capital Improvements Planning Committee is tentatively scheduled for December 28 at the Town House.

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Crete Asked to Speed Up Licensing Process

Marion Conservation Commission

By Mick Colageo

Dan Crete appeared before the Marion Conservation Commission on November 15 to address concerns about his unauthorized float system at his Saltworks Marine boat repair and storage business at 288 Wareham Street (Route 6.)

Conservation Agent Doug Guey-Lee summarized his visit to the site and noted that the floats had been removed from the water.

In discussing the background for his activities in boat hauling, Crete told the commission that he knows of no Chapter 91 license for a boat ramp at the site, saying "it's not a structure" but rather "a pretty unique situation down there."

The site, he said, has evolved since 1948 from use by the Mallowes fish-distribution company. He said the state DEP lists the site as a human-altered shoreline. Crete said it is literally 3, 4 and 5 feet deep in quahog shells.

"It is a zone, marine property ... we are working on a master plan for the yard," said Crete, who said he intends to seek Chapter 91 licensing for boat hauling. "I hate to think anyone thinks we're doing anything nefarious."

Commission Chairman Jeff Doubrava said what happened on the site historically does not matter. He said the town has received calls about large boats coming



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and going and asked Crete "to step up the speed" on the licensing plan.

Crete said he spent well over \$100,000 in the site-plan process when he built his barn across Route 6 from the slope in question.

"It's put a little dent in the coffers for pursuing plans across the street," he said. "We're working on it ... our intention is to stay on this and pursue it with as much haste as we can. ... It's a work in progress. We're building a business. ... I want to do it right."

Crete sought clarification as to what activities would be allowed during that process. He referenced instances that indicate the site in question is safer for boats and shellfish beds than Old Landing.

"I hope the silver lining in this is we can maybe have a bit of a team approach when we get our engineering stuff together," said Crete, who told the commission he has consulted with Mass DEP. "Their attitude with me is you guys check all the boxes with the Chapter 91 rule, that's why they're in place."

Crete said he has also discussed public access with the Buzzards Bay Coalition. He said it is a navigable waterway and that anyone can drive their boat down there and check it out.

Stephen and Jane McCarthy requested an Amended Order of Conditions for a proposed house reconstruction at 43 Dexter Road, Map 5A, Lot 4.

Their representative, Dave Davignon of



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Schneider, Davignon & Leone, Inc., said the applicants were permitted a few years ago for removal of a cottage and construction of a single-family dwelling. An active order exists via permit extension.

In excavating for footings, enormous boulders were encountered. Many were moved but some remain in place. After the original permitting, the applicants bought the lot to the north, allowing for a place to move boulders for an embankment.

Doubrava's main concern is a nearly vertical retaining wall. Noting Marion's 1-to-1 slope standard, he took the position that the wall needs alteration as the commission has never during his lengthy tenure approved a vertical retaining (sea) wall. Davignon acknowledged the standard. Commissioner Shaun Walsh echoed Doubrava's viewpoint but estimated that fixing the wall would only require a foot or two of adjustment.

The commission preferred a 1-to-1 slope and advised Davignon to redesign the slope and come back to the commission on a continuance of the public hearing. Davignon will report to his client.

Applicant Jane McCarthy confirmed Guey-Lee's discovery of an elevator shaft that was not shown on the site plan. Walsh told Davignon he would need to show the elevator shaft in his site plan as revised.

The members voted to continue the case to its December 13 meeting.

Kent Bennett, Six Point Road LLC, filed a Notice

of Intent to construct a wood deck around an existing house and reconfigured in-ground pool location, spa, patio area and gravel driveway with associated planting areas in a mapped Flood Zone VE at 6 Point Road.

Represented by Andy Stackpole of Field Engineering, the applicant proposed removing a kidney-shaped swimming pool and construct an 800 square-foot rectangular pool, remove a partial paved driveway (4,000 square feet of pavement) and replace it with gravel, and add an at-grade wood deck around the perimeter of the house around the front. Other changes include removing the concrete support of an existing staircase in favor of a redesigned to maximize the use of patio space.

Commissioner Matt Schultz expressed concern about erosion control and suggested an expert report. The commission voted to grant a continuance to December 13.

Lujay LLC was voted an Order of Conditions for proposed reconstruction of an existing, two-story garage at 8 West Avenue. Special conditions include some additional silt fencing on site and a driveway of crushed stone.

Regarding the property owned by the Rubenstein family, Davignon described a site measuring 23,626 square feet and bordered along Sippican Harbor by a significant-sized, riprap seawall. Atop the seawall is coastal bank, the 100-foot line of which extends to cover nearly the entire lot.

Davignon said the majority of the property lies within VE-17 (Velocity Zone.) A larger, two-story garage made of breakaway panels will be constructed partially over the footprint of the existing garage but extended more to the southeast. Davignon said it would be constructed within Velocity Zone standards.

The setbacks were adjusted to avoid a septic tank to the west and to 26 feet from the street to meet the setback requirements to the north (thusly avoiding the need for a zoning variance.) A patio is planned for the sea-facing side of the garage.

Doubrava expressed concern over movement of the garage deeper into the "V Zone," to which Davignon noted abutter interest across the street and reiterated the setback concern. Doubrava noted that there is also



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a bylaw requiring structures in the velocity zone to be constructed as far from the coastline as possible.

The science behind the breakaway panels is to have concrete or wood pillars that would stay in place while the panels could breakaway but not go anywhere as they are chained to the framing.

Schultz asked about the thickness and breakability of the concrete slab in the garage, suggesting that FEMA approves 4 inches to ensure breakability during hydrostatic force.

Noting the plan shows no roof-runoff system, Davignon said he does not know if gutters are planned. He said there is substantial lawn to absorb runoff.

Kristian and Melissa Koziol were issued a Negative 2 and 3 Determination of Applicability with no special conditions for proposed landscape improvements on land subject to coastal-storm flowage at 29 Lewis Street.

Eric Winer and Nancy Borstelmann were issued a Negative Box 2 and 3 Determination of Applicability for their construction of a 10x14-foot, uncovered deck, enclosed, lateral enlargement and two cantilevered enlargements at 18 West Avenue.

The Marion Conservation Commission was scheduled to meet on December 13 and is next scheduled to meet on Wednesday, January 3, 2024, at 7:00 pm at the Police Station.

Cushman Road Solar Drives Schedule

Rochester Planning Board

By Michael J. DeCicco

Rochester's Planning Board Tuesday set December 30 and January 9 as its next two important action dates.

The board scheduled a site visit of BWC Snows Pond LLC's plan to build a 12.55-acre solar array along Cushman Road for December 30 and continued the project's hearing until January 9, 2024.

Engineering consultant Andrew Hamel reported his firm filed its response to the town engineer's peer review of the project very recently, leading him to request both the continuance and a scheduled time for the Planning Board's site visit.

Board Chairman Arnold Johnson noted that additionally, JC Engineering, Inc., is requesting approval of the substantial completion of The Village at Plumbs Corner Phase III development, Hayley's Circle. He asked if the board would like to visit that site as well on the same date. Board members said yes and set December 30 at 8:00 am to visit The Village and 8:30 am to visit the Cushman Road site.

The board also continued until January 9 its hearing into JPF Development's plan to build a 15-acre, self-storage facility at Kings Highway and Route 28. It then set a public hearing for that date on a zoning-district change that will be on the warrant before voters at the

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January 22, 2024, Special Town Meeting.

Johnson said the zoning update is a minor one, but a public hearing is still required. The Cranberry Highway Smart Growth Overlay District that covers the Route 58 and Route 28 end of town must be altered because the owner of a liquor store there wishes to move his establishment to land that the overlay district does not yet encompass. It is merely a matter of adding one lot, Town Planner Nancy Durfee said.

In other action, the board reviewed the notices from the owners of 0 Bishop Road, Lots 71 and 72, and 0 Featherbed Lane to release their properties from 61A Agricultural Land Protection. The panel ultimately voted to recommend to the Select Board that the town not

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The board also reviewed zoning bylaw changes that will be proposed at the May 2024 Annual Town Meeting. Chief among the edits the panel recommended are building uses such as lodging and boarding homes, and convalescent homes will be changed to require a special permit so the board can have better oversight of the permits. Home occupations that do not involve other employees will not require a permit.

The Rochester Planning Board will meet next on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 7:00 pm at Town Hall, 1 Constitution Way.

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Minor Field Change Challenged

Mattapoisett Conservation Commission

By Marilou Newell

Engineer Richard Rheume of Prime Engineering came before the Mattapoisett Conservation Commission on December 12, requesting the acceptance of what he deemed a “minor field change.” The project is located at 20 Howard Beach and owned by 21 Century Mill LLC.

After describing the changes to the original plan, which included second-story alterations, Chairman Mike King, along with the commission members, questioned the changes. They held that the changes were not minor, were in fact significant, and either required a new, public notification announcing the changes and alerting abutters – or filing a completely new plan.

Rheume didn’t push back from the commissioners’ comments and agreed to publish a new, legal notice and to send abutter notifications announcing when the filing will be heard.

In other business, a Request for Determination of Applicability for 18 Shore Drive owned by Evelio Suarez was tabled due to lack of representation.

A Notice of Intent filed by Long Build Homes for Lot 50, Shagbark Circle, was conditioned, and an existing Order of Conditions on an earlier filing was given a Certificate of Compliance (no work begun.)

A continued NOI for 12 Old Mattapoisett Road filed by Jay Dupont was conditioned for a new septic system.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Conservation Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, January 2, at 6:30 pm.

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Damage Not Confined to Mattapoisett

*MRV Water District Commission/Water Supply Protection
Advisory Committee*

By Mick Colageo

While Mattapoisett's August 8 encounter with an EF-1 tornado was widely chronicled, including property damage at the Water Treatment Plant, Vinnie Furtado said during Tuesday's meeting of the Mattapoisett River Valley Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee that the Town of Fairhaven was also hit.

"When the tornado went through Mattapoisett, it also affected our well, the Tinkham Lane well. We've been having a heck of a time with the insurance company making things right," said Furtado, the chairman of both the MRV Water District Commission and associated Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee. "We had fence damage, too, we had roof damage ... we've been having a hard time."

The Tinkham Lane well itself was not damaged; minor damage at that well earlier this year led to a boil order as far away as Marion.

In comparing notes, Mattapoisett Water Treatment Plant Supervisor Henri Renauld reported more favorable support from the town's insurance carrier.

"Insurance has been great with us," said Renauld, acknowledging supply-chain programs that vendors are having. Right now, his challenge beyond backorders is getting set up for the repairs project and aligning with Eversource.

Most recently, Wareham-based ABS Fence issued

a change order that will result in Mattapoisett's plant getting a better gate at a lower cost. Renauld said the town has already received \$21,507.26 from insurance toward that project. He was waiting on a backordered heating system and reported difficulty getting a one-night, 1,000-kilowatt generator.

In his Treasurer's Report to the commission, Jeff Furtado announced a total of \$79,606.93 in paid invoices for November – the commission approved.

The MRV has set aside \$736,000 for spending related to the Koch membrane project, and Renauld said that while waiting for official loan approval he has received two invoices from the company for \$109,750 and \$219,500 (\$329,250 total.)

Suggesting that Koch is "most likely waiting for these checks to start," strongly suggested the MRV using the funds.

The MRV has received a letter of approval for a \$2,100,000 loan, but Renauld said it is important that the commission make the initial investment to keep the timeline and get the project done.


Jeff Furtado asked if there are any other immediate expenses that the commissioners should consider before closing the discussion. Renauld said he is expecting quotes on infrastructure at less than \$50,000.

The commissioners voted to pay Koch the invoiced portion of the capital set aside for the purchase of the membranes. Blair Bailey, who serves the MRV as legal counsel, suggested reaching out to bond counsel to advise them of the plan.

For the district operating budget, the commission approved a total assessment of \$2,390,187, a 1.4% increase over last year.

Meghan Davis revisited the previously discussed subject of a Water Management Act (WMA) registration statement that would authorize a bylaw for all MRV member towns where it concerns water-withdrawal rights.

Noting that the MRV has authority to issue administrative penalties for water violations, Renauld, Vinnie Furtado and Tata & Howard engineer Jon Gregory suggested taking the matter before member-town officials before considering a regional action.



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Davis acknowledged the need to reconvene as a subcommittee, talk with member-town select boards, then report back to the MRV. Mattapoisett Town Administrator Mike Lorenzo reminded the membership that the timeline for Annual Town Meeting is tight.

In his update on the Water Treatment Plant filter upgrade project, Tata & Howard engineer Jon Gregory said he is waiting on a draft for SRF 2024 (funding) and reportedly submitted a budget-evaluation form for the project's second contract (installation.)

Anticipating full design (based on local specifications) by the end of next week, Gregory said he will review and get feedback to Koch and proceed from there. He called the process a significant step. Gregory will also update the MRV regarding its project status on capital lists.

One tricky point will be a temporary bypass system while the plant is down and the filtering system is being replaced with state-of-the-art technology.

Gregory, Renauld, Davis and Vinnie and Jeff Furtado participated in a recent conference call with the state Department of Environmental Protection to discuss the process. Gregory said one takeaway is the need to keep a close track on secondary contaminants such as manganese levels.

"It seems they're on board with the plan," said Gregory.

Meantime, Renauld said that divers vacuumed



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tanks, and Well Number 6 was taken offline to clean and make ready for its crucial role in the bypass during installation of the new filtering system that is to take place next winter.

Tata & Howard is ready to draft the MRV's annual report and anticipates a draft in time for the commission's January 9 meeting. At that time, Gregory and Renauld will update the five-year capital plan.

In his Treatment Plant operations update, Renauld said the plant is running well and that an oxygen leak was repaired.

Rochester Water Commission Chairman Fred Underhill attended the meeting to explain his town's request that the MRV share river-monitoring data to



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PUBLIC ACCESS

Comcast Channel 9

Verizon Channel 36

Thursday December 14, 2023

7:00 AM Seniorize
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 ACape Conversations
8:30 AM You and Your Health
9:00 AM A Conversation With...
9:30 AM Pete on the Street
10:00 AM The Curious Giraffe Show
10:30 AM Pine Meadow Alpaca Farms Animal Education
11:00 AM Sidewalks Entertainment
11:30 AM Paltrowitz with Darren Paltrowitz
12:00 PM Tri-Town TV
12:20 PM Christmas in the Tri-Town
12:30 PM What's Linda Cooking?
1:00 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline
1:30 PM Two Tones with George Lopes
2:00 PM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Joanne Thatcher Tiffany
2:30 PM Tri-Town TV
2:40 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Blue October
3:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow and Today
3:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe
3:45 PM Deutsche Welle - Global US
4:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
4:30 PM Tri-Town TV
4:45 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
5:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
5:30 PM This is America & The World
6:00 PM Money Matters TV
6:30 PM The Beacon Hill Report
7:00 PM Lamb of God Christian Church
7:30 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Blue October
7:45 PM Democracy Now!

Friday December 15, 2023

7:00 AM Seniorize
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM Bulldog Sports Show
8:30 AM Living & Learning with Disabilities
9:30 AM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
10:00 AM The Curious Giraffe Show
10:30 AM Mike Paige Doodle Club
11:00 AM Cape Conversations
11:30 AM A Conversation With...
12:00 PM Tri-Town TV
12:20 PM Christmas in the Tri-Town
12:30 PM What's Linda Cooking?
1:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
1:30 PM The Human Truth with Chuck

McIntyre

2:00 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
2:30 PM Christmas in the Tri-Town
3:00 PM Two Grannies on the Road
3:30 PM This is America and the World
4:00 PM Paltrowitz with Darren Paltrowitz
4:30 PM Southcoast Matters TV
5:00 PM ORR Powderpuff Game
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV
6:30 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Blue October
8:00 PM Sippican Historical Society - Celebrating the Archive with Leslie Thayer Piper
9:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
10:00 PM Gay USA
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

Saturday December 16, 2023

6:00 AM Saturday Morning Cartoon Festival
9:00 AM Health Source
9:30 AM Two Grannies on the Road
10:00 AM The Curious Giraffe Show
10:30 AM A Conversation With...
11:00 AM Auto Sense
11:30 AM Science 360
12:00 PM Mid-Day Movie
1:30 PM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Joanne Thatcher Tiffany
2:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
3:00 PM Paltrowitz with Darren Paltrowitz
3:30 PM South Coast Matters
4:00 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
5:00 PM ORR Volleyball vs Dennis Yarmouth
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV
6:20 PM Christmas in the Tri-Town
6:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow and Today
7:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe
7:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Global 3000
8:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Conflict Zone
8:30 PM Sippican Historical Society - Celebrating the Archive with Leslie Thayer Piper
10:00 PM Two Tones with George Lopes
10:30 PM Let's Talk Business
11:00 PM Classic Movies

Sunday December 17, 2023

6:00 AM Health Source
6:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
7:00 AM Lamb of God Christian Church

8:00 AM Mattapoisett Congregational Church
9:00 AM First Congregational Church of Rochester
10:00 AM St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church of Marion
11:00 AM Sippican Memorial Rededication
11:30 AM Tri-Town TV
11:50 AM Christmas in the Tri-Town
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline
1:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre
1:30 PM Halloween in the Tri-Town
2:00 PM Miss New Bedford Insider
2:30 PM Marion Veterans Day Ceremony
3:30 PM Bulldog Sports Show
4:00 PM Fur, Fins, and Feathers
4:30 PM The World Fusion Show
5:00 PM Rochester Historical Society - Old Methods of Land Surveying
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV
6:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow and Today
7:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe
7:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Global 3000
8:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
8:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Conflict Zone
9:00 PM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
9:30 PM Jazz Jam at The Marion Art Center
11:00 PM Beacon Hill Report
11:30 PM Classic Movies

Monday December 18, 2023

7:00 AM Seniorize
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:30 AM For Your Health
9:00 AM You and Your Health
9:30 AM The Curious Giraffe Show
10:00 AM A Conversation With...
10:30 AM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
11:00 AM Two Grannies on the Road
11:30 AM Tri-Town TV
11:50 AM Christmas in the Tri-Town
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?
1:30 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre
2:00 PM Southcoast Matters TV
2:30 PM The Collective Chat
3:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow and Today
3:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe

4:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Global 3000
4:30 PM Jazz Jam at The Marion Art Center
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV
6:30 PM Rochester Historical Society - Old Methods of Land Surveying
7:30 PM Marion Veterans Day Ceremony
8:00 PM Christmas in the Tri-Town
8:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
9:00 PM Let's Talk Business
9:30 PM Building the Future
10:00 PM Gay USA
11:00 PM Democracy Now

Tuesday December 19, 2023

7:00 AM Seniorize
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
9:00 AM Sidewalks Entertainment
9:30 AM The Collective Chat
10:00 AM The Curious Giraffe
10:30 AM Mike Paige Doodle Club
11:00 AM Saturday Morning Cartooning
11:30 AM In the Toy Box
12:00 PM Tri-Town TV
12:20 PM Christmas in the Tri-Town
12:30 PM What's Linda Cooking?
1:00 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline
1:30 PM Miss New Bedford Insider
2:00 PM The Human Truth
2:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow and Today
3:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe
3:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Global 3000
4:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
4:30 PM Rochester Historical Society - Old Methods of Land Surveying
5:30 PM Tri-Town TV
6:00 PM Marion Council on Aging - Cape Verde Story Share
8:40 PM The Beacon Hill Report
9:10 PM Falmouth Academy Community Series
10:00 PM Gay USA
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

Wednesday December 20, 2023

7:00 AM Seniorize
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:30 AM For Your Health
9:00 AM Two Grannies on the Road
9:30 AM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
10:00 AM The Curious Giraffe Show
10:30 AM Sidewalks Entertainment

11:00 AM Mattapoisett Congregational Church
12:00 PM Tri-Town TV
12:20 PM Christmas in the Tri-Town
12:30 PM What's Linda Cooking?
1:00 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline
1:30 PM Southcoast Matters TV
2:00 PM Pine Meadow Alpaca Farms Animal Education
2:10 PM Mattapoisett Harbor Days
2:30 PM Money Talk Tuesday
3:00 PM A Conversation With...
3:30 PM Music Monday's with Houston Bernard
4:00 PM Paltrowitz with Darren Paltrowitz
4:30 PM Rochester Historical Society - Historical Maps of Rochester
5:30 PM Building the Future
6:00 PM Tri-Town TV
6:30 PM The World Fusion Show
7:00 PM Let's Talk Business
7:30 PM Sippican Historical Society Speaker Series - The Revolutionary Temper with Robert Darnon
9:00 PM Old Colony Football vs Narragansett
11:00 PM Democracy Now!

MARION

GOVERNMENT

Comcast Channel 26 Verizon Channel 39 Daily Schedule

7:00 AM Marion Board of Selectmen
7:30 AM Marion Conservation Commission
9:30 AM Marion Planning Board
11:00 AM Marion Zoning Board of Appeals
12:00 PM Marion School Committee
1:00 PM Marion Finance Committee
2:00 PM Marion Open Space Acquisition Commission
2:30 PM Marion Affordable Housing Trust
3:30 PM Marion Board of Health
4:30 PM Marion Marine Resource Commission
5:00 PM ORR School Committee
6:30 PM ORR Joint School Committee
8:30 PM Marion Board of Selectmen
9:00 PM Marion Conservation Commission
11:00 PM Marion Planning Board

ROCHESTER

GOVERNMENT

Comcast Channel 26 Verizon Channel 40

Daily Schedule

7:00 AM Rochester Board of Selectmen
7:30 AM Rochester Conservation Commission
8:30 AM Rochester Planning Board
10:00 AM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals
10:30 AM Rochester School Committee
12:30 PM Rochester Board of Selectmen
1:00 PM Rochester Conservation Commission
2:00 PM Rochester Planning Board
3:30 PM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals
4:00 PM Rochester School Committee
5:00 PM Rochester Planning Board
6:00 PM ORR School Committee
7:30 PM Rochester Board of Selectmen
8:00 PM Rochester Conservation Commission
9:00 PM Rochester Planning Board
10:30 PM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals
11:00 PM Rochester School Committee

EDUCATION CHANNEL

Comcast Channel 8 Verizon Channel 37 Daily Schedule

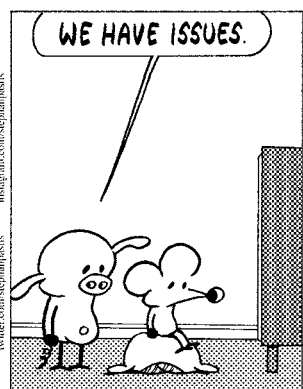
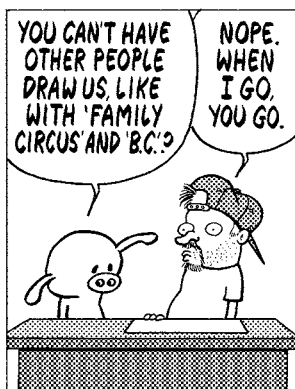
7:00 AM Bulldog Sports Show
7:30 AM Bulldog Weekly
8:00 AM ORR School Committee
9:30 AM ORR Joint School Committee
11:30 AM Sippican School Block
12:00 PM Bulldog Sports Show
12:30 PM Bulldog Weekly
1:00 PM ORR Powderpuff Game vs Wareham
2:00 PM ORR Boys Soccer vs GNBVT at Gillette Stadium
3:30 PM ORR Volleyball vs Dennis Yarmouth
4:30 PM ORR Music - A Night of Jazz
5:30 PM Sippican School Block
6:00 PM Bulldog Sports Show
6:30 PM Bulldog Weekly
7:30 PM ORR Theater Class
8:00 PM ORR/JHS Drama
9:00 PM ORR Spring Concert
10:30 PM Chuck McIntyre - Autistic Presentation at ORR
11:30 PM ORR Girls Softball vs NBBVT

MATTAPOISETT

GOVERNMENT

Comcast Channel 26 Verizon Channel 38

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephan Pastis



support Rochester's study on water levels in its major bodies of water.

Gregory, who helped Underhill work out a technological kink to access the meeting, said there is a MRV stream gauge located in a spot that would benefit Rochester's project.

"This is not only important to Rochester as far as I'm concerned but to the River Valley," said Underhill. "The important part right now is how much water is pulling into Snipatuit and Quittacas and can we put a handle to that?"

Gregory said he will put together a packet of information that dates back to 2011, calling it "a large pile of data" that will be sent to Rochester Town Planner Nancy Durfee.

The recent regional meeting of water officials was considered "very productive" by David Pierce, who also thought the dialogue was "very helpful." Davis was "pleasantly surprised" that representatives from Middleborough and Wareham were able to attend and discuss their challenges.

Vinnie Furtado agreed with Pierce and Davis but expressed disappointment in a lack of attendance at the virtual meeting by member-town elected officials.

"I was personally and professionally disappointed that it wasn't better attended," he said. "Considering the importance of what we do and that we control the public water supply for four communities,

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I would have expected more than that. ... It was just disappointing that no one – no one – came. ... I think you've got to be better than that."

Member Sandy Keese suggested an earlier push for next year.

In his Treasurer's Report to the MRV Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee, Jeff Furtado announced invoices, a balance of \$130,079.96 and deposits featuring \$58,726.70 (Fairhaven and Marion assessments.) Withdrawals as of November 30 totaled \$11,176.94. The committee voted to accept the report.

The next meeting of the MRV Water District Commission/Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee is scheduled for January 9, 2024.

Bikeway Down to Details

Marion Pathway Committee

By Jeffrey D. Wagner

The South Coast Bikeway and walking path will go through Marion, and the town's Pathway Committee met on Tuesday to begin finalizing plans.

The committee met with Jeff Oakes, the town's representative to the South Coast Bikeway Alliance, to iron out some of the small issues pertaining to a 4-mile bike and walking stretch that will go through Marion near the Washburn Park area.

The short meeting took place via Zoom and consisted of some housekeeping matters for this path, which connects to neighboring Mattapoisett and is part of a regional path that encompasses many South Coast communities.

Committee Chairman John Rockwell said the committee will approach recreation officials about parking issues at nearby Washburn Park. The park is on town-owned land that is open to the public and can become congested when the Washburn Park Trust holds events.

The committee has designated parking, but it is nearby an abutting resident. Rockwell said the town is contemplating planting trees as a buffer from the property. The resident requested a different parking

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location, but it does not appear there is any room for such an accommodation.

"The parking issue has been discussed at length for some time. The parking lot on the other side of the park is owned by the Washburn Park Trust and they generally fill it up when they have an event. With the (Massachusetts) Department of Transportation requirement for dedicated parking, the existing road network, field locations and configuration, and wetlands, the spot stood out as the only spot," Rockwell wrote to the neighbor.

The path will stretch approximately 4 miles and will require dirt removal. The action will require a state environmental-impact report.

Oakes said he will advocate for the project, and both he and committee members do not anticipate any issues.

"In terms of environmental justice, this is an amenity to the environmental justice community," Rockwell said.

Oakes said he will get a letter of approval from the South Coast Bikeway Alliance.

The Marion Pathway Committee did not schedule its next meeting upon adjournment.



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OBITUARIES



Sally L. Sleeper Cottrill passed away on Monday December 4, 2023. She was 77 years old.

Born in New Bedford, MA on December 3, 1946, she was the daughter of the late Donald H. and Esther V. (Sohlman) Sleeper. She was a longtime resident of both Fairhaven, MA and Marion, MA.

She was a tremendous mother who loved her three sons and their extended families dearly. Leading by example, she instilled a strong sense of family values in her children. She gained a strong love for music from her mother and a sharp wit from her father. She was always thinking about and trying to help other people.

Sally was an extremely dedicated employee of the New Bedford Housing Authority, serving as the administrative assistant to the executive director from 1982 until her retirement in 2018. She was also an active congregant of the First Congregational Church of Marion for over 40 years, contributing to the church in several meaningful ways. Other notable community contributions include her service as a Marion Boy Scout Troop 32 committee member for well over a decade, serving in various formal positions along the way. If any person or organization asked her for help, she had a hard time saying "no."

She is survived by three sons, Donald and his wife of Guilford, CT, Eric and his wife, Caryn of Cary, NC, and Andrew and his wife, Andrea of Swansea, MA; four beloved granddaughters, and other extended family.

Her Funeral Service was held on Friday December 8th at the First Congregational Church in Marion. Visiting hours were held on Thursday December 7th at the Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals, 50 County Rd., Route 6, Mattapoisett. In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to the First Congregational Church of Marion, P.O. Box 326, Marion, MA 02738. For online condolence book, please visit www.saundersdwyer.com.



Alexander J. Thomson, aka "Slim", 90, of Rochester, MA passed away November 27, 2023 after a lengthy illness.

Born in Toronto, Canada, he later moved to Massachusetts and became a citizen of the USA. Alex, aka Slim, was a Local 37 ironworker in Providence, RI. He was a skilled auto body mechanic and fixed up many cars.

Alex was married to the late Betty Ann (Weigel) Thomson for over sixty years. He is survived by his seven children and their partners, Deborah and Allan, of Ontario, CA, Kurt and Jennifer of New Brighton, PA, Holly of S. Dartmouth, Nancy and Linda of Tucson, AZ, Betty Jo and Dave of Rochester, Lynne and Michael of S. Dartmouth, and Pearl of Mattapoisett. Alex is also survived by his grandchildren,

Kathryn, Kristen, Robyn, Audrey, Olivia, Ivy, Alexandria, Jacquelyn, Brandon, Monique and Erica, Courtney, Rebecca, Benjamin, Jocelyne, Brooke, Nicole, Michelina, Madison, Bryce, several great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews and last but not least, by his beloved dog, Buddy.

Alex was the son of the late Nancy Guy Peopjes Thomson of Toronto, and Fred Peopjes of the Netherlands and was brother of the late Pearl Russell and Hilda Kitchen.

He and his wife Betty, started Liberty Auto Parts, Inc. in Wareham, MA which became a NAPA auto parts store and expanded into three stores that served Wareham, Acushnet and New Bedford. Alex was a Free Mason and member of the Pythagorean Lodge A.F. & A.M. in Marion, MA. He was also a fast pitch softball coach who won several championships.

Alex enjoyed spending time with family, swimming in his pool, riding on his lawn tractor, and his dogs. He was an avid New England Patriots fan.

A service will be held at a later date.



Jane Ellen Ford Barker of Marion, Massachusetts passed away peacefully on December 7, 2023. Jane, the daughter of William Blanchard Ford and Elizabeth Castle Ford, was born on December 28, 1929 in Montclair, New Jersey. She graduated from Thayer Academy in Braintree, MA in 1947, and attended Connecticut College in New London, CT. Charlie Ford,

Jane's older brother, introduced her to a Tabor friend in 1944. The story is that it was love at first sight for Charlie's friend, David Bent Barker and Jane Ford. They married in 1950, and had a long happy marriage of 67 years focused on love of family....and lots of sailing. Life in the Barker household in Essex, CT and Duxbury, MA with four children was a happy, noisy, welcoming and loving environment. Jane was a gracious hostess, who delighted in setting a beautiful dinner table with sparkling crystal and silver, not only on special holidays, but also when family and friends gathered. All family gatherings were special for Jane.

Jane is a descendent of a lineage of Searsport, Maine sea captains, so sailing in Maine and staying at the family camp "Hathorn Point" in St. George, ME on the St. George River was their summer retreat in retirement years. Jane and Dave welcomed a steady stream of family members and guests to enjoy cooked lobster feasts on an open fire or on the soapstone top of a wood stove.

A talented and resourceful seamstress, Jane sewed boat cushion covers, curtains, awnings, clothes, hats, bedspreads, etcanything that would prevent her from shopping or spending money!

The Barkers' involvement with Tabor Academy began in 1942 and still continues. They attended almost every sports game for all three seasons, their boys, David Jr. and Charlie played at Tabor during the 1970s. The Barkers always had the biggest crowd and the best tailgating fare. When David, Jr. and Charlie graduated from Tabor, the Barkers followed

OBITUARIES

their children's college teams. In 1983 Dave and Jane built a house on 15 Ryder Lane in Marion, where Jane lived until her passing. The years in Marion were filled with Dave's 27-year involvement on the Tabor Board of Trustees with Jane his greatest supporter welcoming alumni to their house. Their bird's eye view of the Tabor playing fields allowed them to still be spectators of TA sports in their older years. Jane and Dave had an opportunity to join a student crew on the Tabor Boy for a cruise to the Bahamas. They made it clear that they did not want to be treated any differently than the students onboard, and worked alongside the students. It was "all hands on deck" in their roles on boats and also in life with their four children and families.

On chartered or friends' vessels Jane and Dave explored the Danish Islands, the Virgin Islands and the Lesser Antilles. During their retirement years they cruised the east coast of North America on one of their vessels named "Barcarolle" exploring Chesapeake Bay to New England, Maine, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, the Bras D'Or Lakes, the island of St. Pierre (France) and the south coast of Newfoundland.

Jane was predeceased by her husband, David Bent Barker, Sr. in 2016. She was the loving mother of Hillery Barker Tura (David) of Groton, CT, Wendy Barker of Marston Mills, MA, David Bent Barker, Jr. (Lynne) of Mattapoisett, MA and Jupiter, FLA, and Charles Ford Barker (Ann) of Kennebunk, ME. Jane was affectionately called Gooney or Nana by her five grandchildren, Hunter (Kathleen), Abby (Mark), Ford (Elizabeth), Tim (Meghan), Kaitlyn (Jon) and her ten great-grandchildren and 2 step great-grandchildren. Any visit from children, grandchildren, or great grandchildren involved much "cooing" from Jane with the little ones and undivided attention for the older children with total focus and sincere interest in their lives.

In lieu of flowers contributions in Jane's memory to The Jane Ford Barker Book Fund would be welcome at Elizabeth Taber Library, 8 Spring Street, Marion MA 02738.

Private arrangements are with the Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals, 50 County Rd. (Rt. 6), Mattapoisett. For online guestbook, visit www.saundersdwyer.com.



Ernest J. Davoll, Sr., 88, died Sunday, December 10, 2023 at his home in Rochester just a few days prior to his 89th birthday. He was the husband of the late Arabelle (Burns) Davoll.

Born in Middleboro, he was the son of the late Irving E. Salley and Ruth (Henshaw) Davoll. He moved to Rochester at the age of 15. Mr. Davoll was a general contractor and the owner of Quality Carpentry. After his retirement, he worked full-time operating his hay farm.

He was a longtime member and former deacon of the First Congregational Church in Rochester, and was a volunteer with the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 31.

Survivors include his children, Monica and her husband Lenny Gillis of Norwood; Ernest J. Davoll, Jr. and his wife

Bing of Tiverton; RI and Victor Meserve of Ocala, FL; his sister, Harriet and her husband Robert Sherman of Rochester. Ernest's numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews, will miss his wisdom and companionship greatly. His survivors will look fondly on their memories of his quick wit and warm smile.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit on Thurs., Dec. 14, 2023 at Chapman Funerals & Cremations – Wareham, 2599 Cranberry Hwy. (Rt. 28), Wareham from 4 – 7 pm. His funeral service will be held on Fri, Dec. 15th at 10 am in the First Congregational Church, 11 Constitution Way, Rochester. Interment will follow in Rochester Center Cemetery.

For directions or to leave a message of condolence visit: www.chapmanfuneral.com



William "Bill" Standish Bradford passed away peacefully in his 90th year in Marion Massachusetts. He was the loving father of three children, Laura, Stan and Jamie.

Born on December 29, 1933, in Hampstead Heath, England to American parents William and Helen Bradford. Bill spent his childhood on Cape Cod and in southern Massachusetts. He attended the Taft School and graduated from Tabor Academy. At Boston University he received a degree in English. Bill was an avid athlete, excelling in wrestling, sailing and football while in prep school. In his later years, he loved tennis, road races, water skiing and most outdoor activities. As a young father, his favorite activity was playing "Roof-Ball" with his children. As he got older, he could be found hiking, jogging on the beach with his beloved dog Jasper or riding his bike around Ocean Drive in Newport.

As a child, Bill's summers were often spent with his grandfather (writer Thornton Burgess) at Laughing Brook in Hamden, Massachusetts. It was here that Bill discovered his passion for the natural environment, and perhaps where he began his absolute love of dogs. Bill enjoyed acting and was involved with the Marion Art Center and the Newport Playhouse where he honed his skills. Bill had a unique ability to connect with people, he was loved by those around him.

Bill was predeceased by his brother and his three sisters, Robert, Frannie, Rosemary and Jeannie. He was cared for by his daughter Laura Zell and leaves behind two beloved grandchildren Alexa and Will. Bill also leaves behind two sons, Stan and Jamie Bradford of Marion.

A private memorial service will be held in Marion. In lieu of flowers the family is asking for donations to the Thornton Burgess Society in Sandwich Massachusetts (www.thorntonburgess.org/donate) or the Mass Audubon Society – Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary (www.massaudubon.org)

Arrangements by Chapman Funerals & Cremations – Wareham. To leave a message of condolence visit: www.chapmanfuneral.com



MOVIE REVIEW

Family Affair

By Rob Gonsalves
www.robsmovievault.com

American Fiction. Starring Jeffrey Wright and Issa Rae. Directed by Cord Jefferson. Running time: 117 minutes. MPAA rating: R. Now playing in select theaters.

Cord Jefferson's *American Fiction* is a bit like how Spike Lee's *Bamboozled* might have turned out if Lee had eased up on the satirical buckshot a little and focused on the people involved. A television veteran here making his feature writing-directing debut, Jefferson has adapted Percival Everett's 2001 novel *Erasure*, which was published back when debates over political correctness and Black urban "authenticity" ruled the culture wars. Today it's all about "wokeness" and "virtue signaling," and *American Fiction* rolls in to say ... not a whole lot we didn't know. White readers and literary tastemakers are hungry for reasons to feel guilty, and novels written in African-American Vernacular English about bleak lives full of despair are their cup of poverty-porn tea.

Fed up with writing literary books nobody reads, and contemptuous of try-hard bestsellers like *We's Lives in Da Ghetto*, our hero, Thelonious "Monk" Ellison (Jeffrey Wright), sits down and taps out a *reductio ad absurdum* saga called *My Pafology*, pseudonymously credited to "Stagg R. Leigh." (Later it gets a less subtle and unprintable title.) To Monk's dismay, the book takes off, charming every white reader whose desk it crosses. Ironically, the book is also nominated for a Literary Award, and one of the judges — Sintara Golden (Issa Rae), author of *We's Lives in Da Ghetto* — shares Monk's low opinion of (his own) novel.

American Fiction isn't altogether about that, though. Jefferson spends a lot of time fleshing out Monk's family issues, establishing why Monk can't really afford not to benefit from the book's runaway success. (His elderly mother Agnes, played by Leslie Uggams, has dementia and requires memory-care housing that costs a fortune.) We meet Monk's libertine gay brother Cliff (Sterling K. Brown); his tart OB-GYN sister Lisa (Tracee Ellis Ross); housekeeper Lorraine (Myra Lucretia Taylor), who's been looking after Agnes. Monk's time as a son, brother, and prickly boyfriend — he's attempting something with new acquaintance Coraline (Erika Alexander) — gets more play than his identity as a writer.

Jeffrey Wright has always been a pleasure to watch and listen to, and as the grouchy Monk he gets a lot of mileage out of eyebrow reactions and facepalms.



(Monk spends much of the movie slumped in disbelief over what he's hearing.) Wright takes full advantage of a rare lead role, and Jefferson gives him plentiful dramatic meat to chew on. It's just that if you're expecting the movie to lampoon the current moment (characterized by some as too sensitive, too concerned with diversity), *American Fiction* isn't that movie. Jefferson keeps the hubbub over the book within plausible parameters. Not really a satire itself, the film is partly *about* satire and how it can seem indistinguishable from the stuff it's roasting.

Percival Everett's novel was more of a metafictional musing on how a writer can sell himself cheaply. The racial aspects in the movie feel similarly muted. Monk objects to his books' being filed in the African-American Studies section of the bookstore, and I imagine Everett and Jefferson would harbor the same watchful resentment against their work's being pigeonholed because it emerged from Black creators. "The blackest thing about this one is the ink," says Monk of one of his books. He also says he doesn't believe in race — right as a cab driver passes him over in favor of a white passenger. Jefferson and Wright underplay the moment nicely.

The insights and ironies in *American Fiction* feel matter-of-fact. Nothing is punched up very hard. It's a relaxed portrait of a man caught between needing to be true to himself and needing to make some money. It's comparable to *Bamboozled* only because in both, the Black creators indulge in stereotypes in a spirit of sardonic revolt and watch as the public embraces them sincerely. Here, Cord Jefferson doesn't seem to feel the same fire in the belly that Spike Lee did about the subject. That's partly a good thing — Jefferson doesn't head down the alleys of farce that Lee did — and partly sort of bland. The pertinent fact about Jefferson's creativity, on the evidence of this film, is not that he's Black but that he comes from TV, and *American Fiction*, smoothly rendered and never daring the excesses that Lee did, is essentially television. Still, it leaves the viewer with curiosity about what Jefferson will try next, and no movie that allows Jeffrey Wright this much screen time should be ignored.

Johnson, Bulldogs Open with Thriller

Sports Roundup

By Aiden Comorosky

Old Rochester Regional High School's girls' basketball team played their season opener at home against New Bedford on December 7 and won 50-47 in a thriller.

Emma Johnson was named the player of the game with 14 points and 13 rebounds, while Hannah Thorell had 10 points and 13 rebounds of her own. It was a close game throughout, as no team had a lead of more than 5 points.

"The girls did a great job dealing with foul trouble and showing determination and grit late in the game," said Head Coach Rick Regan.

The Bulldogs were scheduled to visit Dartmouth on December 13. They visit Falmouth on Friday, December 15, at 6:30 pm and Greater New Bedford Vocational-Technical High School on Tuesday, December 19, at 6:30 pm.

Boys Basketball

ORR's boys' basketball team defeated Bishop Stang on December 8 in their opening game of the season and won 71-55 on the road. Zach Mourao was named the player of the game, scoring 18 points for the Bulldogs. They were scheduled to visit Wareham on Tuesday and host Nauset Regional on Friday, December 15, at 7:00 pm and host Greater New Bedford Vocational-Technical High

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TriTOWN HAPPENINGS



Despite eventual rain, the Marion Village

Christmas Stroll was enjoyed by many on Sunday afternoon. The event included musical entertainment by Tri-County musicians, Grades 4 and 5 bands from Sippican Elementary School, Sippican Historical Society carolers and Tabor Academy students, horse-drawn carriage rides, street entertainment, seasonal refreshments courtesy of area merchants, goodie bags from VASE, and crafts for kids. Photos by Mick Colageo



Mattapoisett's annual Holiday in the Park held on December 9 was a grand success. Buffet-style food tables featured delicious items from local restaurants and shops, from donuts to pizza to Chinese offerings and more. Santa and Mrs. Claus were on hand for little ones to share their wishes for a special gift, while elves, Frosty, and one of Santa's reindeer strolled the park spreading holiday cheer. The Lions Club table received donations of new toys and nonperishable foods, while the Old Rochester Regional Junior High School Concert Band played treasured, seasonal musical arrangements. Photos by Marilou Newell

These photos and more are available online at www.wanderer.com

School on Tuesday, December 19, at 6:30 pm.

Hockey

The ORR/Fairhaven hockey team played Dartmouth in their season opener on Monday and won 4-2 at Aleixo Arena in Taunton. Sophomore Tucker Roy was named the player of the game. The Bulldogs' next game will be at the Travis Roy Rink on the Tabor Academy campus against Greater New Bedford Vocational-Technical High School on Thursday, December 14, at 6:15 pm. ORR visits Bishop Stang on Saturday, December 16, at 2:30 pm at Hetland Memorial rink in New Bedford and visits Dennis-Yarmouth on Monday, December 18, at 6:00 pm at Tony Kent Arena in Dennis.

Copy Submission Policy

The Wanderer gladly accepts any and all news and press release items from local nonprofit organizations for publication on a weekly basis. The deadline for submission of news items is Monday at noon for publication in that week's edition. Due to the increasing number of submissions; however, publication of press material is never guaranteed. *The Wanderer* will make every effort to publish timely news items and announcements as the subject warrants and as often as spacing allows. All press material must be submitted by email to news@wanderer.com and must be either in a text or Word file. We are not able to retype, correct or hunt down information to repair incomplete press releases, and we are not able to retype or reformat posters or bulleted lists that are not in readable paragraph form. We cannot accept any handwritten material or news items via telephone, no matter how brief.


Photographs of area events and newsmakers are also accepted and encouraged. *The Wanderer* accepts well-lit and clearly defined photographs for publication provided that they include a brief summary of the event or subject. We cannot return photographs. Like news items, the deadline for photos is Monday at noon, and the publication of photographs is also subject to spacing constraints and cannot be guaranteed.

All submitted copy is subject to alterations and/or condensation as space allows at the editor's discretion. All submissions become the property of *The Wanderer* and are assumed to be submitted for the purpose of publication. Submissions cannot be returned; therefore, please make sure to retain copies.


Poems and essays submitted for publication are subject to *The Wanderer's* Copy Submissions and Letters to the Editor policies.

Ideas for features, breaking news tips and other

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ROCHESTER MEMORIAL**
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6:30-8:45 A.M. 3-6 P.M.
LICENSE # 8033160
LICENSE # 8031977

GREAT STAFF



TRI-TOWN POLICE LOGS



MARION

Log highlights Dec 3-Dec 9

- Delano Rd – Suspicious person
- I195 East – MV collision
- Mill St – MV stop/arrest
- Village Dr – Mental health assist
- Mill St - Arrest
- Cranberry Hwy – Suspicious activity
- Delano Rd – Suspicious activity
- Spring St – EMS/Medical
- Mill St – Larceny/past
- Piney Point Rd – EMS/medical
- Mill St – General offense
- Mill St – Found property
- Front St – Officer wanted
- Spring St – Juvenile offense
- Cove St – Animal control
- Oliver's Rd – EMS/medical
- Wareham Rd – MV collision
- Church St – EMS/medical
- Water St – Animal control
- Front St – Suspicious MV
- Point Rd – Animal control
- Spring St – General service
- Shell Heap Rd – General service
- Mill St – EMS/medical
- I195 West – General service
- Wareham Rd – Larceny/past
- Converse Rd – Follow up
- Spring St – EMS/medical
- Wareham Rd – Gas leak

MATTAPOISETT

Log highlights Dec 3-Dec 9

- I195 East – MV violations
- North St – 911 call
- Oliver's Ln – Ambulance request
- Main St – General transport
- Marion Rd - Disturbance
- County Rd – General service
- North St – MV violations
- Neds Point Rd – Suspicious MV
- Hi-Ona-Hill – Ambulance request
- North St – Ambulance request
- Brookside Dr – Health/welfare
- Wildwood Ter – General service
- County Rd – Assist other agency
- Reservation Rd – Gunshots
- North St – Open door
- Marion Rd – Property found
- North St – Ambulance request
- Marion Rd – Health/welfare
- Randall Rd – MV violations
- Driscoll Ln – General service
- Marion Rd – MV violations
- County Rd – Larceny/forgery/fraud
- I195 West – Lost person
- County Rd – MV crash
- I195 East – Assist other agency
- County Rd – Assist citizen
- North St – Mv violations
- Fairhaven Rd – MV violations
- Marion Rd – MV violations

ROCHESTER

Log highlights Dec 3-Dec 9

- Pierce St – Suspicious activity
- Bryant Ln – Animal control
- Bates Rd - Fraud
- Sarah Sherman Rd - Threats
- Mattapoisett Rd - Harassment
- Pierce St – Suspicious activity
- Burgess Ave – MV collision
- Dexter Ln – MV stop/towed
- Dexter Ln - Threats
- Old Schoolhouse Ln – Noise complaint
- High St – Animal control
- Dexter Ln – Follow up
- Mattapoisett Rd – Lost person
- Walnut Plain Rd – MV stop/citation
- Mattapoisett Rd - Medical
- High St – Well being check
- Rounseville Rd – MV stop/citation
- New Bedford Rd – Animal control
- Marion Rd – Panic alarm
- Randall Rd – 911 call
- Dexter Ln – Suspicious activity
- New Bedford Rd – MV stop/towed
- New Bedford Rd – MV collision
- Rte 495 – Assist other agency
- Cushman Rd – MV collision
- Cushman Rd – Animal control
- Pine St – 911 call
- Marion Rd – General services
- County Rd – MV stop/towed

For a full PDF of the three towns' police logs from the past week, including arrest reports, visit www.Wanderer.com.



REGIONAL LUNCH MENUS

COASTLINE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM

Monday, Dec 18: Vegetarian chili, mashed potatoes, dinner roll, mixed fruit

Tuesday, Dec 19: Honey ginger chicken lo mein, oriental blend, whole wheat bread, pears

Wednesday, Dec 20: Potato parmesan soup, meatloaf w/ onion gravy, Scandinavian vegetable, oatmeal roll, banana

Thursday, Dec 21: Christmas ham w/pineapple cherry sauce, au gratin potatoes, glazed carrots, wheat bread, Boston crème pie, diet: diet pudding

Friday, Dec 22: Chicken salad, pasta salad, three bean salad, sub roll, applesauce

CENTER SCHOOL

Monday, Dec 18: Meatball sub, steamed carrots, pasta salad

Tuesday, Dec 19: Tyson popcorn chicken, creamy mashed potatoes, savory gravy, golden corn, whole grain dinner roll

Wednesday, Dec 20: Whole

grain French toast sticks, maple syrup, cheese stick, tator tots

Thursday, Dec 21: Homemade chicken soup, mozzarella stix

Friday, Dec 22: Cheese pizza, roasted chic peas, steamed broccoli

OLD HAMMONDTOWN

Monday, Dec 18: Meatball sub, steamed carrots, pasta salad

Tuesday, Dec 19: Tyson popcorn chicken, creamy mashed

potatoes, savory gravy, golden corn, whole grain dinner roll

Wednesday, Dec 20: Whole grain French toast sticks, maple syrup, cheese stick, tator tots

Thursday, Dec 21: Homemade chicken soup, mozzarella stix

Friday, Dec 22: Cheese pizza, roasted chic peas, steamed broccoli

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH

Monday, Dec 18:

Monday, Dec 18: Meatball sub, steamed carrots, pasta salad

Tuesday, Dec 19: Tyson popcorn chicken, creamy mashed potatoes, savory gravy, golden corn, whole grain dinner roll

Wednesday, Dec 20: Whole grain French toast sticks, maple syrup, cheese stick, tator tots

Thursday, Dec 21: Homemade chicken soup, mozzarella stix

Friday, Dec 22: No lunch served

ROCHESTER MEMORIAL

Monday, Dec 18: Meatball sub, steamed carrots, pasta salad

Tuesday, Dec 19: Tyson popcorn chicken, creamy mashed

potatoes, savory gravy, golden corn, whole grain dinner roll

Wednesday, Dec 20: Whole grain French toast sticks, maple syrup, cheese stick, tator tots

Thursday, Dec 21: Homemade chicken soup, mozzarella stix

Friday, Dec 22: Cheese pizza, roasted chic peas, steamed broccoli

SIPPICAN SCHOOL

Monday, Dec 18: Meatball sub,

steamed carrots, pasta salad

Tuesday, Dec 19: Tyson popcorn chicken, creamy mashed potatoes, savory gravy, golden corn, whole grain dinner roll

Wednesday, Dec 20: Whole grain French toast sticks, maple syrup, cheese stick, tator tots

Thursday, Dec 21: Homemade chicken soup, mozzarella stix

Friday, Dec 22: Cheese pizza, roasted chic peas, steamed broccoli

OLD COLONY REGIONAL

Monday, Dec 18: Orange chicken bowl & dinner roll

Tuesday, Dec 19: Cheese pizza quesadilla & fries

Wednesday, Dec 20: Spaghetti & meatballs, green beans & garlic bread

Thursday, Dec 21: Linguica sandwich & fries

Friday, Dec 22: Assorted pizza

suggestions for the news department are welcome. Please call the News Editor with news tips and ideas at 508-758-9055. If it is after hours, please leave a message or email news@wanderer.com.

Letters to the Editor

The views expressed in the "Letters to the Editor" column are not necessarily those of The Wanderer, its staff or advertisers. The Wanderer will gladly accept any and all correspondence relating to timely and pertinent issues in the great Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester area, provided they include the author's name, address and phone number for verification. We cannot publish anonymous, unsigned or unconfirmed submissions. The Wanderer reserves the right to edit, condense and otherwise alter submissions for purposes of clarity and/or spacing considerations. The Wanderer may choose to not run letters that thank businesses, and The Wanderer has the right to edit letters to omit business names. The Wanderer also reserves the right to deny publication of any submitted correspondence. All letters must be typed and submitted directly to: news@wanderer.com.

To the Editor:

On December 2, 2023, I arrived at Howland Marsh to assist the Sippican Land Trust with trail maintenance. I was shocked to see so many empty beer cans thrown in the bushes across the street on land trust property, so I put on my gloves, grabbed my pickers, and removed four bags of trash from the property. Most of the trash consisted of empty beer cans of the same brand, but there was also a fire alarm and some take-out containers. It is disturbing to see how little respect was shown by the litter tossers to the land trust property, and the town of Marion. One would expect those who consume adult beverages to act like adults and place their trash in the appropriate trash containers.

Lorene Sweeney

Mattapoisett Democratic Town Committee

The Mattapoisett Democratic Town Committee will hold its December meeting on Wednesday **December 20** at 6:30 pm in the downstairs public meeting room at the Mattapoisett Free Public Library located at 7 Barstow Street. Tri-Town community members who share the Democratic Party values are invited and welcomed to attend. You do not need to be a member of the Committee to participate. At this meeting, the Committee plans to discuss holding a "2024 Election Year Speaker Series" sponsored by the Matt DTC. If members are in support, we will discuss potential series topics most important to our democracy. Ideas from all will be welcomed. Afterwards we plan on strolling over to the Inn for some holiday cheer. For more information or general questions about joining Matt Dems, email Matt DTC Chair Nicki Demakis at ndemakis@tidlaw.com. Hope to see you there.

Holiday Sing-Along

Come one. Come all. Join the Mattapoisett Museum at 5 Church St on Sunday, **December 17** at 4:00 for its all Holiday Sing-along. Led by Steve LaValley and accompanied by Gail Roberts, the song list will include old time favorites such as Jingle Bells, Rudolf, Deck the

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Halls, White Christmas and many more. Santa will also be making a special appearance, and participants will enjoy some festive refreshments. Please join the Museum for this jolly event.

From the Files of the Rochester Historical Society

By Connie Eshbach

In a town as old as ours there are many locations that have gone through changes. In the center of town, the building created to hold the "Academy" is the current church vestry. Streams dammed for foundries later powered sawmills.



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ACROSS

- 1 Sports events played by visiting teams
10 Obeys reluctantly
16 Boho-chic Aussie boots
20 Arched shoe part
21 Part of U.K.
22 She talks on iPhones
23 Parasites plaguing the Cheshire cat?
25 A party to
26 Everlasting, poetically
27 Above ground
28 Bedazzled
29 Worked to get a different reward?
35 Pizza base
38 Tic-tac-toe win
39 Geometry assignments
40 "Dr." who raps
41 Above, poetically
42 Yard separators
45 Prefix with cyclist
46 Combat vet's affliction, for short

- 47 One giving technical advice to wizards?
52 Bull in a ring
54 Structure near a tonsil
55 "Othello" adversary
56 Relatives of alpacas
59 Adversary
60 City area where lots of radiators are produced?
63 Sword variety
66 Medic
67 Hiking aid
68 Disgusting
69 Untwisting threads
75 "I think —!"
77 Mobile's state
78 Smell horrible
79 Big ape
83 Hoofbeat
84 Math student doing sums correctly?
87 Mötley —
89 — hub (tech device)
91 Widely known
92 "Nope"
93 Narrow estuary
94 Guinea pig's cousin

- 97 Ring legend Muhammad
98 Speechify
100 Clock setting at the rear of a ship?
105 Makes grimy
106 Eye color, e.g.
107 Non-Spanish spelling of an Arizona tribe's name
111 Pack neatly
112 Trim request ... or what this puzzle takes, based on what its missing letters spell?
117 Sicilian peak
118 Use a hammer to fix, perhaps
119 Angry cry to a captor
120 Promising
121 Lacey's partner on TV
122 Hugh Jackman film about robot boxing

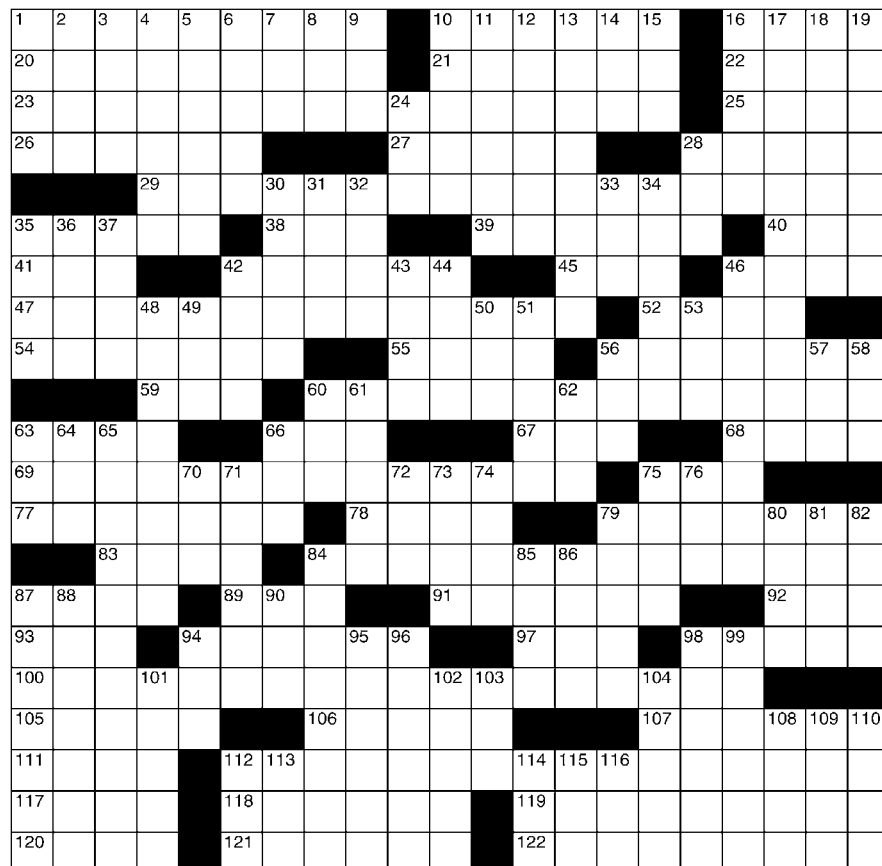
DOWN

- 1 Vex
2 Doing the job
3 Suffix with clear or vigil

- 4 Certain plows and tractors
5 Give a smile
6 Ed of "Gus"
7 Trim grass
8 "Do Ya" rock gp.
9 Wash. bigwig
10 Good, in Spain
11 Freeway access point
12 More shrewd
13 Begin
14 "X" number
15 Eccentric
16 Consuming
17 Popular highball
18 Gardeners, farmers, etc.
19 Well-muscled
24 Affront, in rap
28 GEICO's bus.
30 Incessantly
31 Geologic spans
32 Lead-in to drama
33 Sweetie pie
34 Should that be the case
35 Super-deep sleep
36 Skim, say
37 Spur (on)
42 Pâté de — gras
43 Hollywood's

- 44 Eye color, e.g.
46 Itchy, medically
48 Make weak
49 Pigeon sound
50 Geologic span
51 Shearer of "A Free Soul"
53 Sept. follower
55 Bigwig
57 Comic strip cry of dismay
58 Sloppy farm area
60 Animal in a 58-Down
61 Greeting with a GIF, maybe
62 June honoree
63 Geologic span
64 Chum
65 Pre-hurricane orders
66 Stuff in the gene pool
70 Thai language
71 Oppose as false
72 Snoozing site
73 Atoll feature
74 Sticky pod in Cajun cuisine
75 Entre — (between us)
76 Tolkien beast
79 Astronaut's wear

- 80 "Girls" creator Dunham
81 Legal exam, for short
82 Former court king Arthur
84 Lying adjacent to
85 Epps of "Scream 2"
86 Give up a poker hand
87 More boorish
88 Trattoria rice dish
90 Distress call
94 — Antiqua
95 Plaid design
96 Even-scored
98 Nebraska Native Americans
99 Reinstate in an office
101 1999 Super Bowl MVP John
102 Humdinger
103 Wolfed down
104 Spying info
108 To — (perfectly)
109 Living space
110 German car company
112 Circle part
113 Rural stretch
114 Rink legend Bobby
115 Stipend or toll
116 St. Pete loc.



SALOME'S STARS

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Although taking advice isn't always easy for the headstrong Sheep, you might want to consider what someone you respect will have to say about an upcoming decision.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A new offer is tempting, but don't be bullied into a quick decision. Rely on your keen Bovine business sense to alert you to anything that might be questionable.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Your "Gemini Twin" nature rallies to help you deal with this week's hectic schedule, both in your personal and professional lives. One caution: Watch your diet.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Avoid rushing to make up for lost time on a stalled workplace operation. It's best to set up a schedule and pace yourself. Welcome the help of your colleagues.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Despite those glittering holiday distractions that you love so well, be sure to keep your feline senses set on high to alert you to anything that might require fast action.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Making an effort to restore fraying relationships proves to be more successful than you dared hope. The holidays also bring new friends into your life.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Private and professional matters compete for your attention. Be honest in your assessment of which should get more of it -- and for how long.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A seemingly endless list of must-do tasks is best handled by tackling them one by one. Don't forget to take energy-restoring time-outs between each job.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A vexing relationship seems destined to deteriorate no matter what each side tries to do. A third party's advice just might prove to be helpful.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Reach out and ease any tensions caused by home or workplace pressures before they threaten the relationship-building progress that you've made.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You often go out of your way to show kindness to others, so don't be surprised if other people want to do something nice for you this week.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) People in your life respect your Piscean wisdom, so don't hesitate to speak up about a matter that you feel isn't being handled quite the way it should.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your personal warmth helps you make friendships, and your sense of fair play helps you keep them.

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One such place off of Rte. 105 has been home to some very disparate uses. Today, on the left as you head towards Marion, you pass the "Pines at Hathaway Pond", a residential development begun in the early 2000's. However, the pond's creation goes back to the early 1700's. It was then that Joseph Burge built a small mill called the "Sippican Mill." The mill was only in operation for 20 years, but it is safe to credit him with the damming of the river to create the pond.

Others took over the mill with little success. At one time the property was owned by Theophilus Pease. Later, Joseph Smith built the first gristmill in Rochester Center in 1803 on the site of the old mill.

The gristmill and later sawmill had many shareholders who had various rights of flowage and to the mill pond stream, the dam, flume raceway and mill yard. These rights were accrued through labor and/or the advance of money for building and equipment.

There is an 1852 deed at Town Hall for David Lewis that gave him three undivided parts of the corn (gristmill) on the river along with the corresponding parts of the dam and water rights.

The Hathaway name, still in use today, was that of Capt. Judah Hathaway who came into his 7/8 of the corn and 1/3 of the sawmill through his marriage to Hannah Ellen Lewis, daughter of David Lewis. The Hathaways lived at 56 Marion Rd., and he ran the sawmill into the 1900's.

A very different use of the property came along in more modern times. The Knight and Look Campground with its motto, Family Camping at its "BEST" under "Tall Pines" became a destination for seasonal trailers, small campers and tents. In its heyday, on a bluff over the pond or tucked into the trees, campers could enjoy the 50 ft. swimming pool, play horseshoes, softball or basketball.

For many years it was a true family camping experience with some returning year after year. There were community dances and dinners along with campfires under the trees. Of course, there was JJ, the resident swan.

This all ended on Oct.11, 2004, when owner Janice Look closed the campground and sold the large property to the Hartley-Zell Housing association for \$1,325 million. One long time camper said the closing was like the "breaking up of a family."

After an extensive cleanup in which the sign of the campground rules was liberated from a trash can, the creation of The Pines at Hathaway Pond began. This



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to the
moon & back
this
Christmas!



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TriTOWN HAPPENINGS



Santa, Mrs. Claus, the Grinch and one of Santa's helpers made their annual run through the streets of Rochester on Sunday morning with the help of the Fire Department. Photos courtesy Miranda Costeira



The 33rd annual Marion Holiday House Tour was enjoyed by many on December 9. The annual fundraiser began at the Handy Tavern, the headquarters of the Sippican Woman's Club, which hosted the event. The tavern was built in 1812 and has been owned by the club for many decades. Club historian Jeanine Bruen shared that the club is celebrating its 100th year and for nearly that long has been taking care of this structure in the heart of Marion village. "We women have kept it in good shape," Bruen boasted. Along with six private homes opened to ticket holders, were the Marion Art Center, St. Gabriel's Church Hall, which held a sugar plum tea, and the Beverly Yacht Club. Photos by Marilou Newell



Friday night the Marion Natural History Museum hosted a standing-room-only presentation about the Black Bear population in Massachusetts. According to state fish and wildlife biologists Jason Zimmer and Steven Wright, the population is rapidly expanding into the eastern part of our state. Jason gave us some good tips to keep black bears out of our property, including removing bird feeders, covering and keeping our garbage contained, and how to keep bears out of our livestock. The museum wishes to thank Jason and Steven for the wonderful presentation. Photo courtesy Elizabeth Leidhold

These photos and more are available online at www.wanderer.com



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brings us up to the present day and the realization that the one constant in this spot has been the pond, dammed so long ago by Joseph Burge.

UCT Inducts Seventeen Students into the NHS

Seventeen Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School students were inducted into the school's chapter of the National Honor Society on December 7. The newest members of the National Honor Society are 12th graders



Gideon Drury (Electrical), Simon Heaslip (Horticulture), Jabnael Lozada Santana (Engineering Technology), Ivey Patton-Salsman (Marine Technology), Brodie Scott (Horticulture), Camryn Valley (Veterinary Science), and 11th graders Lillie Afonso (Veterinary Science), Sean DeMatos (Information Technology), Brandon Dunn (Plumbing and Heating), Hanna Guay (Health

Technology), Tyler Hardiman (Information Technology), Meghan Holt (Carpentry), Kaia Philips (Environmental Technology), Sara Rotondo (Carpentry), Diamond Staton (Cosmetology), Michael Theoharidis (Plumbing and Heating) and Kaitlyn Wright (Veterinary Science.)

Mattapoisett Cemetery and Memorials Advisory Committee

Mattapoisett's newly formed Cemetery and Memorials Advisory Committee has several areas of responsibility.

Acting in an advisory manner, the committee will assist the Select Board in matters related to the municipal



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cemeteries Barlow and Hammond.

They will advise and assist in the coordination of memorial bricks and benches. New forms are available for the purchase of memorial bricks from Town Hall, the Library, or the Council on Aging.

They are also seeking information for the future recognition of all veterans, either buried or interned in Mattapoisett. The committee is working with the Sons of the American Revolution to establish a commemorative plaque naming those Patriots.

Expanding on the identification of all Veterans' graves, if you have information that can assist the committee, please contact Chairman Ray Hanks through the Select Board's office.

Christmas Day Swim

Please join us for a fun family tradition that helps those in need. Helping Hands and Hooves will host the 20th annual Christmas Day Swim at 11:00 am at Mattapoisett Town Beach.

Each swimmer is asked to donate \$15 (payable on the day of the swim.) The first 75 swimmers will receive a festive long-sleeved T-shirt. 100% of the proceeds will benefit Helping Hands and Hooves - a 501c(3) non-profit based in Mattapoisett that is dedicated to providing therapeutic horseback riding lessons for adults with disabilities.

If you would like to learn more about

Helping Hands and Hooves, please go to our website: helpinghandsandhooves.org. If you have any questions, please call Debbi Dyson at (508) 758-4717 or email info@helpinghandsandhooves.org.

Tinkhamtown Chapel Christmas Carol Sing-along

The Tinkhamtown Chapel Annual Christmas Carol Sing-along will take place on Saturday, **December 23** at 5:00 pm at the Tinkhamtown Chapel, Acushnet Road and Tinkham Lane. Join your friends and neighbors as we sing the classic carols in a 19th century chapel. Light refreshments will be served. Anyone wishing to take part by singing a solo or accompanying the group, or would

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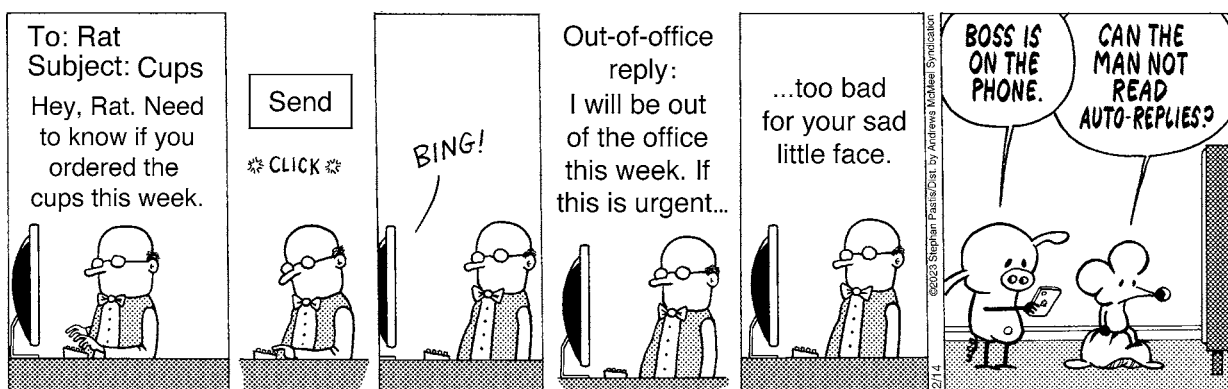
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LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES
<p>TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS</p> <p>Notice is hereby given that the Mattapoissett Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on the following Applications and Petitions. ALL meetings held in the Mattapoissett Town Hall Conference room; 16 Main Street (unless otherwise noted) New format of meetings; start time is 6:00 pm **THIS MEETING WILL BE IN PERSON ON DECEMBER 21, 2023**</p> <p>CONTINUANCE: Case #1527: Petition of: Allan Pineda, P.O. Box 1509, Mattapoissett, MA, 02739; RE:33 Church Street. The applicant is seeking a Special Permit, as provided by Article 3 Section 3.1.2.2 and Variance by Article 7, Section 7.2.3 of the Zoning By-Laws, to request permission to construct a 42'X30' Single Family Dwelling with a 15X16 deck and 27.6X5.6 front porch. The property is further described as Plot 9, Lot 48 on the Assessors Map. The hearing will be held on Thursday, December 21, 2023</p> <p>Case #1532: Petition of: Dennis Mahoney, 1 Industrial Drive, Mattapoissett, MA, 02739; RE: 20 County Road . The applicant is seeking a Variance, as provided by Article 7, Section 7.2.3 of the Zoning By-Laws, to request permission to construct an 8'X19' dry storage addition. The property is further described as Plot 9, Lot 198 on the Assessors Map. The hearing will be held on Thursday, December 21, 2023</p> <p>Complete applications and plans as filed are available for inspection in the Office of the Town Clerk during normal office hours. Sincerely, Susan Akin, Chairperson, Kenneth Pacheco, Colby Rottler, Anthony Tranfaglia, Jordan Rodrigues 12/7, 12/14</p> <hr/> <p>TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</p> <p>The Mattapoissett Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 6:30 pm in the Mattapoissett Town Hall on a Notice of Intent submitted by James W. & Lisa C. Tenglin. The meeting will also be a hybrid meeting. Please contact the Conservation Commission for the Zoom information.</p> <p>The Applicant proposes to construct a single-family dwelling and driveway, to install a sewage disposal system and underground utilities and to fill and grade.</p>	<p>The proposed work will be performed within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, Flood Zones AE (El. 15 & 16) and VE (El. 18) & within the 100 ft. Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland.</p> <p>The property is located at 124 Aucoot Road which is further identified as Lot #61 on Assessors Map #3. 12/14</p> <hr/> <p>TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</p> <p>The Mattapoissett Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 6:30 pm in the Mattapoissett Town Hall on a Notice of Intent submitted by Robert T. & Carole E. Hall. The meeting will also be a hybrid meeting. Please contact the Conservation Commission for the Zoom information.</p> <p>The Applicant proposes to construct an attached 2-story garage addition to a single-family dwelling, rebuild an elevated deck and to perform associated site work.</p> <p>The proposed work will be performed within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, Flood Zone AE (El. 15) & within the 100 ft. Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland.</p> <p>The property is located at 17 Highland View Avenue which is further identified as Lot #71 on Assessors Map #15B. 12/14</p> <hr/> <p>TOWN OF MARION SELECT BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</p> <p>Amendment to On Premises, All Alcoholic Beverages License – Alteration of Premises The River Junction 27 Wareham Road, Marion, MA</p> <p>The Marion Select Board, acting as local licensing authority, will hold a public hearing on Friday, December 29, 2023, at 9:00 am at the Marion Town House Conference Room, 2 Spring Street, Marion, on the application of The River Junction for an Alteration of Premises to an existing on premises, license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages. Carleton Burr, Jr. – Chair 12/14</p> <hr/> <p>TOWN OF MARION CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</p> <p>The Marion Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 27, 2023, at 7:10 pm at the Marion Police Department Conference Room 550 Mill Street, also available via Microsoft Teams (Remote Participation Option), on a Request for Determination of Applicability, submitted by Town of Marion, Harbormaster for the removal of pine/evergreen trees along Northeast corner of property at 1 Island Wharf Road.</p> <p>The site is further identified as Lot 76 on Marion Assessors' Map 14. Plans are available at the Town House for review. Jeff J. Doubrava, Chair *Please contact Terri Santos at tsantos@marionma.gov for the Microsoft Teams link and for meeting information. The meeting will be live streamed on ORCTV. 12/14</p>	<p>will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 27, 2023, at 7:05 pm at the Marion Police Department Conference Room 550 Mill Street, also available via Microsoft Teams (Remote Participation Option), on a Request for Determination of Applicability, submitted by Byron and Cynthia Deysher for the installation of an 18'x36' in-ground pool with associated 5'-10" wide concrete deck, a 24'x24' pool pavilion, underground utilities, a pool equipment platform and associated site grading, a septic tank for a proposed bathroom and outdoor kitchen in the pavilion; also includes a 12'x16' addition to the house at 44 Lewis Street.</p> <p>The site is further identified as Lot 3C on Marion Assessors' Map 16. Plans are available at the Town House for review. Jeff J. Doubrava, Chair *Please contact Terri Santos at tsantos@marionma.gov for the Microsoft Teams link and for meeting information. The meeting will be live streamed on ORCTV. 12/14</p> <hr/> <p>TOWN OF MARION CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</p> <p>The Marion Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 27, 2023, at 7:10 pm at the Marion Police Department Conference Room 550 Mill Street, also available via Microsoft Teams (Remote Participation Option), on a Request for Determination of Applicability, submitted by Town of Marion, Harbormaster for the removal of pine/evergreen trees along Northeast corner of property at 1 Island Wharf Road.</p> <p>The site is further identified as Lot 76 on Marion Assessors' Map 14. Plans are available at the Town House for review. Jeff J. Doubrava, Chair *Please contact Terri Santos at tsantos@marionma.gov for the Microsoft Teams link and for meeting information. The meeting will be live streamed on ORCTV. 12/14</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Place your classified ads 24 hours a day 7 days a week on-line at www.wanderer.com</p>

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE
by Stephan Pastis



like to contribute to the refreshments, please call Gail at 508-758-9559 or email peggsmom@gmail.com.

Rochester Women's Club

The ladies of the Rochester Women's Club will be hosting a visit from Santa on **December 16** at the Club House located at 37 Marion Road. From 11 to 1, Santa will be available for a chat and a photo. This is an opportunity for parents to bring along their phones or cameras and catch a glimpse of their little one with Santa. Refreshments will be available. This is a completely free event. Donations to benefit our scholarship will be gratefully accepted.

On Wednesday, **December 29**, you may find the Women's Club Carolers at your door. We will be out in force starting at 4:30 pm.

Friends of the Mattapoisett Bicycle and Recreational Path


Friends of the Mattapoisett Bicycle and Recreational Path ask residents who are enjoying the Shining Tides Mile to consider the "bike path" in their year-end giving plans. We're now working with the Town on Phase 2 which will extend the Mattapoisett Rail Trail from Depot Street into the Park Street neighborhood and over to Marion. We've pledged a \$50,000 contribution as the local match to a \$200,000 MassTrails Grant which will finalize design for Phase 2A so that construction funding for a "shovel ready" project can be requested. We're ¼ of the way to our goal using the funds raised by the 2023 Tour de Crème. A generous donor is matching all contributions up to \$2500.

Hopefully, people have read about the significant progress on the Marion Pathway. Friends' funding match of the last mile in Mattapoisett will keep the safe connection to Marion moving forward without pauses, creating protected road crossings of Route 6 and North Street. Learn more at our website www.mattapoisetttrailrail.org.

Contributions to the Friends can be mailed to PO Box 1336, Mattapoisett, MA 02739 or made through GoFundMe. All funds received will be used to support the

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completion of the path and path amenities. Thank you.

December Events at the Mattapoisett Library's Children's Room

The Mattapoisett Free Public Library has an array of exciting children's events planned for December.

On Thursday, **December 14**, patrons have two chances to participate, 3:30 pm or 4 pm, in Make a Candy Lighthouse, with all ages welcome. Adult assistance is needed for children under 5. Registration is required.

Additionally, Snowy Days Storytime will take place on Thursday, **December 14** and Thursday, **December 28**, at 10:30 am, featuring songs, stories and fun. No registration is required.

Finally, on Friday, **December 29** at 1pm, the library invites families to join Film Friday: Holiday

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TRIVIA TEST

By Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: Which Disney animated movie features the song "Whistle While You Work"?
2. GEOGRAPHY: Which two oceans are on Russia's shores?
3. PSYCHOLOGY: What is the fear represented in the condition called euphobia?
4. TELEVISION: What is "The Simpsons" home address?
5. GAMES: How many dimples are on a golf ball?
6. ASTRONOMY: Earth's place in the solar system is how many planets from the Sun?
7. LANGUAGE: What is the only country in South America whose official language is Dutch?
8. FOOD & DRINK: What is a sweet-bread?
9. LITERATURE: In which century was "The Canterbury Tales" written?
10. SCIENCE: Who is considered the father of modern astronomy?

Answers
1. "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs,"
2. Arctic and Pacific.
3. Fear of good news.
4. 742 Evergreen Terrace.
5. Generally between 300-500.
6. Third.
7. Suriname.
8. Internal organs of a young animal.
9. Late 14th century.
10. Copernicus.
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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

The Town of Mattapoisett is accepting resumes to fill the Inspectional Services Director position for the Building Department. Full Job Description is available on the Town website under Current Job Openings. Please send resumes to bebert@mattapoisett.net

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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	6				9			7
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	7			2			1	3
8					5	4		
1		3	6			7		
		2			4			6
	4			3			2	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way
that each row across, each column down and each
small 9-box square contains all of the
numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then
rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Fewest

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Companion

SECTOR

Lift

ARISE

Vast

GATER

TODAY'S WORD



"When I said give him everything you've got—

I didn't mean your _____!

Edition, featuring "Nutcracker: The Motion Picture" by the Pacific Northwest Ballet, complete with popcorn and beverages. No registration is required.

For further inquiries, feel free to contact the library at mfpl@sailsinc.org or by visiting our website at MattapoissettLibrary.org. It promises to be a delightful month full of creativity, festive activities and community engagement.

Christmas Cantata at Matt Congo

The Mattapoissett Congregational Church invites the community to a special event. "Sing Joy to the World" is the theme for this year's Christmas Cantata which will be held on Sunday, **December 17** at 10 am featuring the Seaglass Theater Company Quartet of Emma Whynacht, Patrice Tiedemann, Jeremy Young, Alexander Breault, the choir of the Mattapoissett Congregational Church and Music Director, Michelle Gordon.

Everyone is welcome at Mattapoissett Congregational Church. For additional information, please contact the church office at 508-758-2671 or mattcongchurch@gmail.com.

Mattapoissett Museum Holiday Sing-Along

The Mattapoissett Museum at 5 Church Street invites the community to join together on Sunday, **December 17** at 4:00 pm. Join us for a Holiday Sing-along led by Steve LaValley and accompanied by Gail Roberts. The song list will include old time favorites such as Jingle Bells, Rudolf, Deck the Halls and many more. Song booklets of the words will be provided. After the singalong, participants will meet Santa Claus himself and enjoy some festive refreshments.

Raffle of Gift Baskets at Book Sale

A new feature at the annual Holiday Book Sale at the Elizabeth Taber Library in Marion will be a Raffle of more than a dozen unique gift baskets. These include a Family Movie Night Basket, a Baby Book Lover Basket, a Baseball Fan's Basket, a Winter Gardening Basket, a Secret Life of Bees Basket and a Christmas cookie jar filled with an assortment of freshly baked Christmas cookies, which

is a sample of the variety. Raffle tickets will be for sale through Sunday, **December 17**, when the drawing will be held at 2 pm.

Another added attraction of the Holiday Book Sale is that refreshments of mulled cider and home baked Christmas cookies will be served. The sale will feature books in gift giving condition, as well as puzzles and games. Colorful ETL T-shirts, for children and adults and onesies, all priced at \$25, will also be for sale. The sale will run through **December 23** for the convenience of last-minute shoppers. It will be held at the library at 8 Spring Street, Marion.

Theatre One Presents Shangri-La

What does Shangri-La and the Holiday Season have in common? The Magic of Forgiveness, Love, Happiness and Renewal. Come join the fun with Theatre One as four talented actors directed by Peg Holzemer perform a Stage Reading of Shangri-La by Needham Playwright Nancy Temple, followed by a Q&A between playwright and audience, at the Mitchell Memorial Club, Sunday, **December 17** at 2 pm with doors opening at 1:30. All tickets \$10 cash only and full bar. No reservations. Theatre One also collects Food Donations at all our events for the Sacred Heart Food Pantry, serving the towns of Carver, Rochester, Lakeville and Middleboro.



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Classified Guidelines:
*As a general rule, there are approximately six words per line in a standard Classified Ad.
*Blank lines cannot be used in Classified Advertisements.
*There is only upper case and lower case lettering.
*No graphics may be used in Classified Advertisements.
*Classified Ads cannot be placed on hold.
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Placing Classified Ads On-line: Ads can be placed on line at:
www.wanderer.com

Dropping Off Classified Advertisements: Ads can be dropped by our office at 55 County Road in Mattapoisett, Monday, Thurs, Fri -9am to 3pm; Tuesday 9am to noon

Payment Policy: All sales final, we do not offer credits or refunds.

Legal Advertisements:
* Legal Ads are \$1.00 per line, at a minimum of \$25. per ad.

Tundra
by Chad Carpenter



Mattapoisett Land Trust Merchandise

Do you have old Mattapoisett Land Trust merchandise laying around in a drawer somewhere? Well, we'd love to see a picture of it. If you have older, discontinued land trust merchandise, please snap a photo of it and email it to manager@mattlandtrust.org.

Mattapoisett Land Trust is preparing to celebrate our 50th Anniversary in 2024. With that will come exciting new designs for the T-shirts and hats that you always find at the land trust booth on Harbor Days. We'd love to see photos of your old favorite designs to help inspire us in designing some new merchandise.

George's Pony Pasture Stone Wall Restoration

The Rochester Land Trust has launched a fundraising campaign to restore the stone walls at "George's Pony Pasture" on Mattapoisett Road. The campaign has raised \$16,000 so far, \$8000 from Land Trust members and another \$8000 from an anonymous donor who offered to match every dollar raised, up to \$10,000. Masons began work on the wall this past weekend and will continue through November, weather permitting.

The property is named after philanthropist and town legend George Church, whose pony often grazed in the field beyond the wall. George passed away in 2014 at the age of 90. The Rochester Land Trust acquired three properties from George by virtue of "bargain sales", where land is purchased for less than market value.



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SUNDAYS
11-4**

Wings N' Things

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All three properties offer the iconic landscapes that are indicative of the rural character that the Land Trust seeks to preserve. While only three acres in size, George's Pony Pasture has over 1,000 feet of road frontage, bounded by dry field stone walls front and back.

Russ Keeler, Treasurer at the RLT, opined "not only does this project enhance Rochester's rural character and honor George Church himself, but it also honors the now forgotten craftsmen who originally built this wall. It boggles the mind to consider the amount of effort expended to clear the field and build this wall, especially before the age of mechanized equipment. We are heartened by and grateful for the close to 50 townspeople who have supported this project so far."



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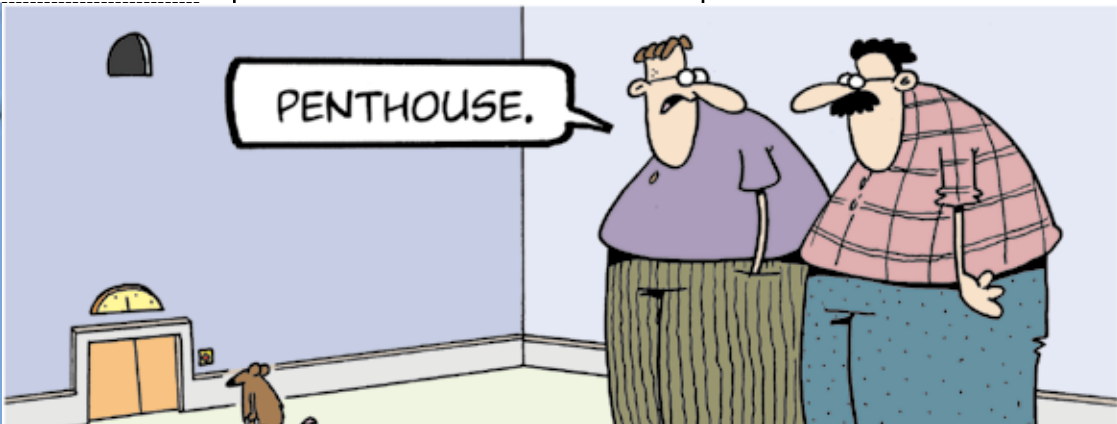


HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Don't forget to wish these people a Happy Birthday!

Beth Redman	December 14
Jeanette Webb	December 14
Meadow Perry	December 14
Daneen Eilertsen	December 16
Brandon Garde	December 17
Donna Walther	December 17
Kimberley Goguen	December 17
Molly Janicki	December 17
Thomas DeCosta	December 17
Judy Anthony	December 18
Kenly Hiller	December 18
Palmer W. Clingman	December 18
Peter MacLean	December 18
Alex Cordeiro	December 19
Brittany M. Lestage	December 19
Hillary Collyer	December 19
Luz Jackivicz	December 19
Sara Achorn	December 19
Sylvia Longworth	December 19
Erin Burke	December 20
Kaitlin Kelley	December 20
Nancy Duff	December 20

If you would like *The Wanderer* to announce a birthday for yourself, a friend or family member, please submit your information online to us at www.wanderer.com. To submit information by regular mail, please send the person's name (month and day) along with your name and phone number so we can confirm the information to Birthdays, c/o The Wanderer, P.O. Box 102, Mattapoisett, MA 02739. You may submit birthday announcements anytime during the year and they will be published/posted during the appropriate week.



It is not too late to support this project. "It is unrealistic to think we can fix the entire wall, front and back, but the more money we raise, the more of it will be restored", said Keeler. Contributions may be made to the RLT at PO Box 337, Rochester, MA 02770, or by using the PayPal link on their website at www.rochesterlandtrust.org.

BBAHFH Seeking Land

The Buzzards Bay Area Habitat for Humanity is currently seeking partnerships to secure low-cost land for their next home. A local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, BBAHFH mission is 'building homes, communities and hope'. BBAHFH was first established in 1996 and serves the nine communities of Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Rochester, Wareham and Westport.

Explains Executive Director Christine Lacourse, "We are currently looking for land in our territory that is a suitable spot to build a house or duplex. Ideally, the land will be donated to BBAHFH by an individual, group or even a governmental entity. The Westport Housing Trust purchased a parcel of undeveloped land and sold it to Habitat for \$1,000 for our most recent build. We can also build on city lots and rehab existing homes as well."

Ideally, the lot meets local zoning requirements, has at least 7,000 to 10,000 square feet of area, and access to amenities such as water, sewer and utilities. If no sewer is available, the lot must be able to accommodate a private septic system and needs to have minimal constraints, such as wetlands, ledge or contamination.

Since Habitat for Humanity is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, land donations are tax deductible per IRS code. In addition to substantial tax deductions, donors can benefit from shedding unwanted taxable property and can feel good about helping families in need of housing that is affordable. Homes are built with volunteer labor and donations of land, money and materials, as well as a minimum of 300 sweat equity hours that the Habitat family invests into building their own home.

Recipients of a Habitat house must be able to demonstrate a true need for adequate shelter, have the ability to pay a low-interest mortgage, show proof of U.S. citizenship or permanent residence status and reside or work in the affiliate's territory.

"One reason donors love our organization is because Habitat for Humanity provides a hand up, not a handout," remarked Lacourse.

Owning a home has the potential to provide opportunities for success for families, especially for the next generation. By obtaining a home, the family has healthier surroundings and a greater sense of stability. Living in a home, children often make better grades and stay in school longer. Some further their education and grow in their careers because they have gained confidence due to the responsibility of owning a home. A new cycle begins, and it all starts with a home. Families with low-

income need home ownership opportunities that are affordable to provide a healthy, stable environment for their family.

For more information on donating or volunteering, visit www.buzzardsbayhabitat.org, email Christine Lacourse at BuzzardsBayAreaHabitat@yahoo.com, or call (508) 758-4517.

South Coast Chamber Music Series

South Coast Chamber Music Series (SCCMS)

Artistic Director Janice Weber is pleased to announce the full program for the 2023-2024 season. "Welcome to another season of spectacular chamber music performed by artists of the NBSO. This year The Brass join in for a brilliant blowout and throughout the season, masterworks traversing three centuries are leavened with a selection of delectable duos. Our precious heritage of American chamber music – startling, majestic, and unique – features on each program. With special gratitude to Patty Plum Wylde for her sponsorship of our February concert, we look forward to seeing all of our steadfast supporters for another exciting journey together.

This SCCMS season features NBSO musicians Jesse Holstein, violin; EmmaLee Holmes-Hicks, violin; Ethan Wood, violin; Anna Griffis, viola; Leo Eguchi, cello; Janice Weber, piano; Peter Zay, cello; Christopher Nunn, viola; Zebediah Upton, trumpet; Geoffrey Shamu, trumpet; Seth Budahl, trombone; Michael Bellofatto, horn;

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The Wanderer

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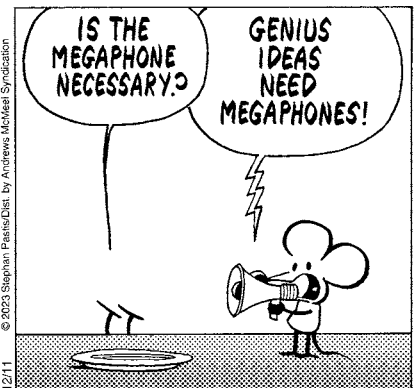
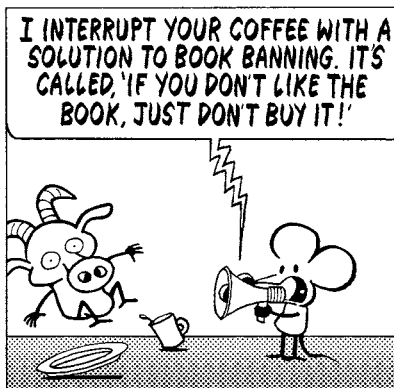
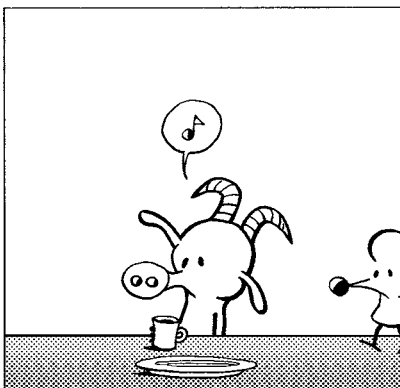
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Concert Listing:

Viva Viola: **February 3 & 4**

Trifecta: **March 9 & 10**

Banquet: **April 27 & 28**

Saturday concerts will take place at 4:00 pm at St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, 124 Front Street, Marion. Sunday concerts will take place at 4:00 pm at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 351 Elm Street, South Dartmouth. Individual concert tickets are \$25 and must be purchased in advance. Save 20% by subscribing to all 5 concerts for \$100. Tickets and subscriptions are available online at nbsymphony.org/chamber-series-2023-2024 or by calling the NBSO office: 508-999-6276 ext. 222.

The NBSO is a professional orchestra that annually presents a concert series of classical and pops music with internationally acclaimed guest artists, as well as an outstanding chamber music series. In addition, the NBSO's innovative and nationally recognized educational programs reach 8,000 students each year. The NBSO is dedicated to building a community of music in the South Coast. Visit www.nbsymphony.org today.

New Bedford Symphony 2023-2024 Season

The New Bedford Symphony Orchestra and Music Director Yaniv Dinur are pleased to announce the 2023-2024 concert series, taking place at New Bedford High School's Bronspiegel Auditorium. Subscription tickets for the season are now available, and individual concert tickets will go on sale in August.

"I'm excited to present to you a concert season like never before. Never before – because we won't be at the Zeiterion this season (you might have heard it's getting a makeover.) Never before – because we will be at the New Bedford High School. But mostly never before – because every live concert is a unique experience that never happened before and once finished, will never return. That's the magic – and mystery – of the phenomena of music. I can't wait to see you at the symphony." – Yaniv Dinur, Music Director

NBSO 2023-2024 Season:

January 20, Movie Pops: Let's Get Animated

March 16, Growth: Jesse Holstein, violin and Anna Griffis, viola

April 13, Many Contrasts: Katherine Chi, piano

May 18, The Way of Passion: Sergei Babayan, piano



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All concerts will take place at the Bronspiegel Auditorium, New Bedford High School, 230 Hathaway Boulevard, New Bedford. Classical performances include preconcert talks by Music Director Yaniv Dinur at 6:30 pm in the auditorium.

Subscriptions are now available. Subscribe to the full season (7 concerts) and receive a discount of 15% off ticket prices, while a discount of 10% is applied when you subscribe to your choice of 3 to 6 concerts. You can find complete concert details and subscribe online through the NBSO website (www.nbsymphony.org) or by calling the NBSO at 508-999-6276, ext. 222. Subscribe today to get the best possible seats and pay no ticketing fees. Individual concert tickets go on sale **August 22**. Details on our 2023-2024 South Coast Chamber Concert Series will be published soon.

Birthday Parties at the MAC

The Marion Art Center's Arts & Crafts instructor Aylin Cetik is offering birthday parties in the MAC Studio. Parties for ages 4 and up will be scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays, with 15-20 minutes reserved at the end of the party for a sweet treat. Available times are 10 am-11:30 am or 1:00 pm-2:30 pm. Suggested party themes include: mermaids, fairies, outer space, pirates, art & science or custom. The cost is \$275 for up to ten guests and \$15 for each additional child with a maximum of 15 children. Add-on options include outdoor lawn games, or other activities by request, for an additional fee. For more information and to inquire about dates, email aylincetik@gmail.com.

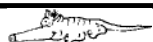
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Stewart, Christine E Stewart, Elizabeth A	Farland Estates Iii LLC	14 Nantucket Dr	Mattapoisett	11/22/2023	749,000.00
Okun, Marc E Dague, Carol C	Plumb Corner LLC	7 Katlyn Cir	Rochester	11/24/2023	704,550.00
Oleary, John R Oleary, Amy	Ziegler, Ann K Ziegler, Hans P	16 Cottage St	Marion	11/28/2023	1,262,500.00



Local Tides

Day	Date	High		Low	
		a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Thursday	December 14	8:31	8:58	1:38	2:45
Friday	December 15	9:21	9:50	2:27	3:29
Saturday	December 16	10:14	10:46	3:17	4:15
Sunday	December 17	11:10	11:43	4:09	5:04
Monday	December 18		12:08	5:07	6:01
Tuesday	December 19	12:42	1:05	6:24	7:08
Wednesday	December 20	1:40	2:03	8:21	8:13
Thursday	December 21	2:40	3:04	9:43	9:09
Friday	December 22	3:42	4:07	10:43	9:56
Saturday	December 23	4:43	5:07	11:34	10:40
Sunday	December 24	5:39	6:01		12:05
Monday	December 25	6:29	6:50	12:01	1:01
Tuesday	December 26	7:16	7:36	12:04	1:41
Wednesday	December 27	8:00	8:20	12:48	2:16
Thursday	December 28	8:43	9:03	1:34	2:49
Friday	December 29	9:24	9:47	2:19	3:21
Saturday	December 30	10:05	10:30	3:03	3:54
Sunday	December 31	10:45	11:14	3:46	4:29:00

Phases	First Quarter	December 19th
of the	Full Moon	December 26th
Moon	Last Quarter	January 3rd
	New Moon	January 11th



I Found the Aardvark!

Each week, hidden somewhere in the pages of *The Wanderer* is a tiny drawing of an aardvark. The little guy you are looking for looks exactly like the one pictured above (but don't put down this page as your answer, there's another one hidden somewhere in this issue).

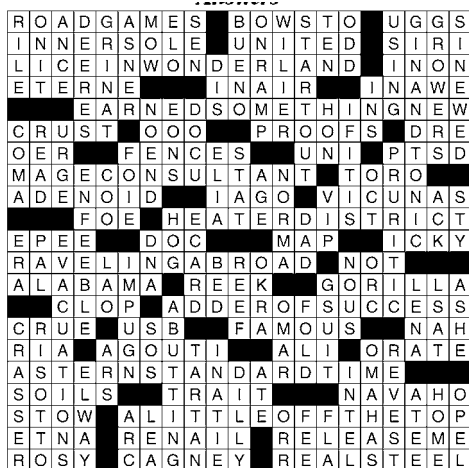
Once you find the aardvark you can submit your answer on line and if you are right you will get Aardvark Points! You can then use these points to get cool Aardvark Prizes!

To enter visit: www.wanderer.com and Click on *I Found the Aardvark*

In the December 7, 2023 edition the Aardvark was on page 22

PUZZLE ANSWERS

CROSSWORD SOLUTION



SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Least
2. Escort;
3. Raise;
4. Great

Today's Word

TITLE

Sudoku Answer

4	9	1	7	5	3	2	6	8
5	2	7	1	8	6	9	3	4
3	6	8	2	4	9	1	5	7
2	3	5	4	7	1	6	8	9
6	7	4	9	2	8	5	1	3
8	1	9	3	6	5	4	7	2
1	8	3	6	9	2	7	4	5
7	5	2	8	1	4	3	9	6
9	4	6	5	3	7	8	2	1

DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY, BUT NICE TRY

off the mark by Mark Parisi





at PLUMB CORNER

SALE EFFECTIVE:
Friday, December 15 — Thursday, December 21, 2023

565 Rounseville Road • Rochester, MA 02770

Phone: 508.763.5333

Open Daily: 7am-8pm

Grocery, Dairy, & Frozen

Dunkin'
12 oz. Selected
Coffee
\$8.99



Mott's - 64 oz. Selected
Apple Juice..... **\$3.49**

Poland Spring
Half Liter Bottles, 24-28 Pack
Spring Water..... **\$5.99**

Stove Top - 6 oz. Selected
Stuffing Mix..... **\$2.29**

Ocean Spray - 14 oz. Selected
Cranberry Sauce..... **\$2.19**

Mott's - 24 oz. 6 Pack Selected
Applesauce..... **2/\$6**

College Inn - 32 oz. Selected
(Excludes Organic & Bone)
Broth..... **2/\$5**

Campbell's
10.5 oz. Chicken or Mushroom
Cream Soup..... **2/\$3**

Heinz - 12 oz. Selected
Home Style Gravy..... **2/\$5**

Hellmann's - 15-30 oz. Selected
Mayonnaise..... **\$5.99**

Heinz - 12 oz. Chili or
Cocktail Sauce..... **2/\$5**

Bonne Maman
13 oz. Orange Marmalade or Selected
Preserves..... **\$4.99**

Domino - 4 lb.
Granulated Sugar..... **\$3.99**

Karo
16 oz. Selected
Corn Syrup..... **\$3.49**

Nestle Toll House
10-12 oz. Selected
Morsels..... **2/\$7**

Doritos, Cheetos, or Sunchips
3.625-5.125 oz. Selected
Minis Snacks..... **2/\$5**

Tate's Bake Shop
7 oz. Selected
Cookies..... **\$4.99**

Land O Lakes
16 oz. Selected
Butter Sticks..... **\$5.99**

Daisy - 14 oz. Squeeze Selected
Sour Cream..... **2/\$6**

Heluva Good!
12 oz. Selected
Dip..... **2/\$5**

Philadelphia
8 oz. Bar Original
Cream Cheese..... **\$4.29**

48 oz. Selected
Breyers..... **\$4.99**

Wine

Truchard
750 ml California
Chardonnay

Wine
\$32.99

Reg. Price: \$34.99



Self-Serve Drinks Bar

Featuring MA based Fogbuster hot
coffee & cold drinks on tap including:

- Organic juices
- Nitro brew coffee
- Cold brew coffee
- Unsweetened iced tea
- Hot Chocolate also available!

Meat, Deli, Prepared Foods & Cheese

Friends'
Premium Certified
Black Angus
Boneless Chuck
Pot Roast
\$6.99 lb



Fresh
Baby Back
Pork Ribs
\$3.99 lb



Boar's Head - Deluxe
Ham..... **\$10.99** lb

Boar's Head - Imported
Swiss Cheese..... **\$10.99** lb

Boar's Head
10 oz. Pkg. Selected
Hummus..... **2/\$7**

Boar's Head - 8 oz. Pkg. Imported
Gouda Cheese..... **\$6.99**

Kayem - 12 oz. Pkg. Selected
Bacon..... **\$8.99**

Store Made
Tuna Salad..... **\$11.99** lb

Store Packaged
Egg Salad..... **\$10.19** lb

Store Packaged
Four Bean Salad..... **\$5.99** lb

Bakery

Fresh Baked, 9.75 oz. Pkg.
Mini Eclairs..... **\$4.49**

Fresh Baked, 24-27 oz. Pkg.
Apple Pie..... **\$7.99**

Delicious
Hot Soups
available daily!



SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!



Why wait in line when you can order ahead online!
Download the Chow Now app, order and pay online, and skip the line!



ChowNow

Check our new selections of
**Local & Craft Beer,
Cider & Wine!**

Visit our new website!
www.friendsplumbcorner.com



Friends'
marketplace

Visit our website:
www.friendsplumbcorner.com

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Rochester, MA 02770
Phone: 508.763.5333**

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at PLUMB CORNER

We reserve the right to limit quantities & correct typographical errors. Illustrations are for design purposes only. Items are while supplies last and no rain checks.
Due to current market conditions, item retails may change and products may become unavailable unexpectedly.

SALE EFFECTIVE: Friday, December 15 — Thursday, December 21, 2023

HOLIDAY SAVINGS!

Friends'
Premium Certified
Black Angus
Sirloin
Strip Steak
\$17.99
lb



Friends'
Roast
Beef
\$15.49
lb



Frey
750 ml California
Zinfandel
Biodynamic
Wine
\$18.99

Reg. Price: \$19.99



Poland Spring
Half Liter Bottles
8 Pack Selected
Sparkling
Water
\$2.99
+Dep



Cabot
6-8 oz. Selected
Bars, Cuts, Shredded,
Shingle Packs, or
Slices
Cheese
2/\$6



Ben & Jerry's
16 oz. Selected
Non-Dairy,
Frozen Yogurt, or
Ice Cream
\$4.99



Quality Produce



Driscoll's - 1 lb. Pkg.
Strawberries..... **\$3.99**

Driscoll's - 6 oz. Pkg.
Blackberries or Raspberries.. **\$3.99**

Carlson Orchards
Half Gallon, Locally Produced
Apple Cider..... **\$3.99**

Crisp
Broccoli Crowns..... **\$1.99**
lb

Bunch
Celery..... **\$1.99**
ea

1 lb. Pkg. Peeled, Mini
Baby Carrots..... **\$1.99**



SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!